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THE JOURNAL BUILDING,
MAIN STREET, KINGWOOD.

HISTORY OF

PRESTON COUNTY.

(WEST VIRGINIA.)

S. T. WILEY.

ASSISTED BY
A. W. FREDERICK.



KINGWOOD, VA.: THE JOURNAL FOR TING HOUSE.



1233561

PREFACE.

The written history of the county up to 1869 was nearly all destroyed by the burning of the public records in 1796 and in 1869.

The unwritten history that is trustworthy, is fast fading from the minds of the people.

The written history so brief and the unwritten so rapidly passing away—to unite and preserve them, was the aim of the authors and the object of this work.

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KINGWOOD, JUNE 7, 1882.



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ERRATA.

Compelled by the loss of records to draw from so many different sources the vast mass of facts and dates in this volume, the following errors appear, which the reader is requested kindly to correct:

Page 9, line 3, for "this mound" read "Castle Mound."

Page 17, line 35, for "north of" read "south of."

Page 24, line 22, for "In 1858" read "In 1758." Page 31, line 34, for "Brain" read "Taylor."

Page 43, line 35, for "south of" read "north of."

Page 43, line 35, for "south of" read "north of." Page 44, line 3, for "south of" read "north of."

Page 50, line 6, for "built houses" read "had houses."

Page 55, line 34, for "Valley" read "Kingwood."

Page 65, line 28, for "by the commissioners" read "by commissioners."

Page 72, line 3, for "west" read "east."

Page 87, line 33, for "that month" read "June."

Page 102, line 13, for "Fifth" read "Sixth." Page 102, line 14, for "Sixth" read "Fifth."

Page 102, lines 22 and 23, same corrections.

Page 117, line 2, for "seven thousand" read "eight thousand."

Page 138, line 9, for "fifty-one" read "fifty-five."

Page 138, line 10, for "eighty-one" read "eighty-eight." Page 316, line 3, for "Harrisburg" read "Harrisonburg."

Page 337, line 26, for "1849" read "1848."

Page 348, line 26, for "Burgess" read "Burrows." Page 362, line 4, for "Pleasant" read "Grant."

Page 364, line 20, for "Colonel Patrick McGrew" read "Colonel James McGrew."

Page 369, line 14, for "the creek" read "the said creek." Page 373, line 4, for "John Wotring" read "John Worthington."

Page 374, line 9, for "in operation" read "in prospect."

Page 375, line 19, for "1869" read "1859." Page 375, line 33, for "1875" read "1876."

Page 383, lines 3 and 10, for "George E." read "George."

Page 396, line 30, for "10 poles" read "20 poles."

Page 409, line 19, for " $65\frac{1}{2}$ " read " $64\frac{1}{2}$." Page 409, line 24, for "200" read "210."

Page 409, line 25, omit "N."

Page 409, line 26, for "62" read "622."

Page 412, line 18, for "1874" read "1879."

Page 394, line 11, for "son" read "grandson."

Page 396, line 23, for "N" read "W."

Page 396, line 31, for "20" read "10."

Page 396, line 32, for "600" read "600 p."

Page 433, line 3, for "glove factory" read "tannery." Page 443, line 34, for "Jordan's" read "G. Jordan's."

Page 456, line 32, for "and Mary" read "James and Mary." Page 488, line 5, for "Lower Freeport" read "Upper

Freeport."

Page 490, line 8, for "Mr. Thomas" read "Mr. Thomas

Waters."

Page 93: James H. Grimes, (brother of William H. Grimes,) mentioned as a citizen of Preston, was here on a visit only.

Page 118, line 4, for "3d of" read "4th of." Page 231, line 10, for "2d of" read "21st of."

Page 355: J. A. F. Martin and J. C. Kemble served through but two terms, instead of three terms, though extending through three years.

Page 505, line 10, for "Angeline" read "Angelina."

Page 505, line 15, for "service in the U. S. Signal Corps" read "and was transferred to and rendered active service in the Signal Corps."

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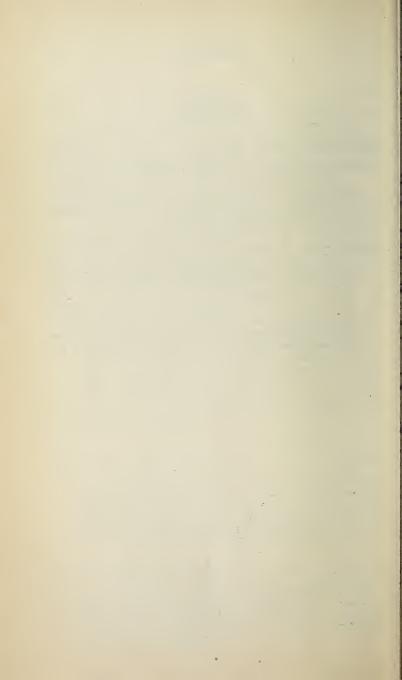
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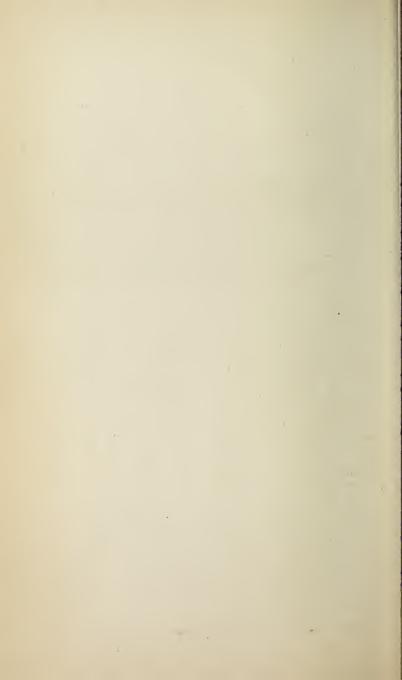
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HISTORY OF

PRESTON COUNTY.

ABORIGINAL PERIOD---MOUNDBUILDERS.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL HISTORY.

ORIGIN: THEORIES ADVANCED—WORKS: MOUNDS AND FORTIFICA— TIONS—FATE: THEORIES CONCERNING.

There is but little known of the ancient history of the North American Continent despite the most exhaustive researches. Near four centuries ago when human eyes in the track of the morning sun-rays first beheld the forest shores of America, it was as if a great curtain had rolled away from the western world of waters.

But back of it, lay a continent with only the Mound-builders' ruins and the Red Men's traditions. No history in volumes traced, no record in rock-written inscription, to tell where the one race with a civilization but no history had gone, or the other race with a tradition but no civilization had come. Of the Moundbuilders' origin and mysterious fate—first we have supposition, next theory from relics, then speculation and that is all.

Came they from Asia when Abram sojourned in the land

2

of Egypt? Came they at a later date across the trackless wilds of inhospitable Siberia, passing over Behring Strait on its ice-bound floor; or did they, in the northern winter land's sickly smile of summer, coast along the chain of the Aleutian Islands stretching from Asia to America; or left they fabled Atlantis, when it was sinking in earth-quake throes, to plant themselves westward on the North American shore? No one can tell. Mexican and Indian traditions and relics found in the mounds, favor the hypothesis of their migration from Asia by Behring Strait or the Aleutian Islands, and that they were the ancestors of the Toltecs and Aztecs of Mexico.

The earliest traces of human life found in America indicate an age corresponding with the age of the mammoth and reindeer of Europe. Corresponding with the stone age and the beginning of the bronze age in Europe, was a semi civilized state of life in America—a race of people who were Moundbuilders, and who undoubtedly built all the great mounds in the United States. As to how far back this period extended, none can tell. David Cusick, an educated Indian, in a work entitled "Ancient History of the Six Nations," states an Indian tradition assigning the Moundbuilders back twenty-two centuries before the landing of Columbus. Were they strong in numbers? Undoubtedly, as no traces exist of their possessing domestic animals, it must have taken great numbers of men, long periods, to build the great works whose ruins remain to this day.

These great works were of two kinds: first, mounds; second, fortifications. The mounds may be considered in regard to form and use; in form they were round, oblong and pyramidal; as regards use they may be divided into four classes.

Temple Mounds.—The first great class is pyramidal in form; and in the West they are from 50 to 90 feet high, and from 300 to 700 feet long, with terraces or steps ascending to their summits, where clear traces and unmistakable signs

of former buildings are to be found, indicating the past dwelling of chief or priest.

Altar Mounds.—The second great class in form is round, and found to be from two to four feet high, and five to eight feet across. On the top is always a depression in a layer of hardened clay; and in this depression, ashes; and in these ashes, evidences of burnt sacrifices: while every object found in them is broken and has suffered from fire.

Effigy Mounds.—The third great class in form body forth rude representations of different animals, and north of the Wisconsin River are some representing the human form. Representing animals, they are about two hundred feet long, 4 feet high, and 25 feet wide.

Tomb Mounds.—The fourth great class of mounds in form is round and oblong, their dimensions widely varying in different localities. One close to St. Louis is 40 feet high, and 300 feet long. They are far more abundant than those of the other classes. They are of two kinds: first, interment mounds; and second, battle mounds, where the slain were piled up and earth heaped over them. These mounds in the Ohio Valley are larger, and the bones in them, by an advanced stage of decomposition, show them to be older than the mounds of the Atlantic States. A careful examination of the interment mounds in many places, gives unmistakable and indisputable evidence of the practice of cremation rites.

Fortifications, the second kind of these great works, may be considered in regard to form as circular, square or eliptical; in regard to use, they may be considered as of two classes.

Old Forts.—The first great class existed all over the Mississippi Valley, enclosing from a few yards up to several acres of land. Red Stone Old Fort at what is now Brownsville, stood on the site of the moundbuilders' old fort. They were of different shapes, and stood on the banks of some water. They were earth structures east of the Mississippi; while west, stone was extensively used in their construction.

Fortified Hights.—The second great class in the east,

are chiefly found in Georgia; where, in one section of the State, all defensible mountains were fortified by this extinct race. Mt. Yound 4000 feet high, and Stone Mountain 2360 feet high, were fortified with stone rolled and heaped, and built up into defensive walls.

What tools did they employ in the construction of thier great works? Revealed by the plow-share, unearthed from the mound, brought up from the half hidden, pit and concealed hiding place, they are comprised according to material of two classes, stone and copper. Of stone, a rude flint chipped in shape of a spade to which a handle was attached was used for digging. Flint spades, axes, tomahawks, chisels, wedges and knives constituted their tools of stone: while as weapons of stone, they had arrow- and spear-heads, besides pipes, tubes, pestles, pendants, sinkers and ornaments. copper, rudely hammered out were tools, such as axes, ham mers and spoons, weapons and ornaments obtained by working mines on Lake Superior, where a block of copper weighing six tons was discovered some years ago, that they had commenced to take out, with their rude stone and copper tools lying by its side. They used bone and horn to make cups and spoons, clay and shells to make ceramic ware. and wood to make clubs and rude mauls.

Tools and weapons were found in a mound at Marietta, Ohio, on whose top trees were growing thirty years ago, and their age was estimated at 800 years. This calculation would give 1050 A. D. as the time when the mound was finished.

The Mammoth Mound of Marshall County, W. Va., in 1837 was described as follows: 69 feet high, 900 in circumference at the base, a frustrum of a cone with a flat top 50 feet in diameter. A white oak tree 70 feet high crowned its summit, and when cut down its annual concentric circles showed an age of 500 years; so that it must have come up 50 years before Columbus discovered America. Two vaults containing three skeletons were found in excavations of the

mound, ivory beads and copper bracelets, and a singular hieroglyphical stone inscribed with characters in the ancient rock alphabet of 16 right and acute angled single strokesu used by the Pelasgi and other early Mediterranean nations Standing on an elevated plain 75 feet above the level of the Ohio River it was connected by low earthen intrenchments with other mounds. They took in a well, walled up with rough stones; and back on a high hill were found the ruins of a stone tower, apparently a watch-tower, built of rough undressed stones laid up without mortar. A similar tower stands on a high Grave Creek hill, and one across the Ohio River on a high projecting promontory. The three towers seem to have been built as watch-towers, or sentinel out-looks for the numerous mounds dotting this elevated plain. Howe says: "On the Green Bottom in Cabell and Mason County vestiges of a large city, with traces of laid-out streets running to the Ohio River, covering the space of a half mile, were once visible."

Why left this mighty race this great empire? did war from the Indian, famine or fever, waste them? or sought they a southern clime more warm than glows beneath our northern skies? None with certainty can tell. Cusick gives us Indian tradition, that the Indians drove them south 2000 years before Columbus came, and that the Moundbuilders came from the south; which might have been either Louisania or Mexico; but there are many things to impair the story. Theory favors, but certainty does not stamp, the conclusion, that the Moundbuilders were the ancestors of the Aztecs and Toltecs, and obeying a migratory impulse, sweeping forward and southward to the plains of Mexico and Peru, established themselves under the reign of Emperor and the rule of Inca.

Leaving this country, these mounds may have been the rude model-structures of ideas they developed into those wonderful structures that greeted the greedy eyes of Cortez and Pizarro. The introduction of stone into their mound-struct-

ures here must have represented an idea of progress—an experimental mode of a proposed change, whose consummation might have been achieved in the great halls, cities, temples and acqueducts of the Montezumas.

The Moundbuilders' age stands as the twilight of America's earliest civilization. On its close fell a night of barbarism, resting all over the land and extending to the coming of Columbus, the dawn of America's latest and the world's brightest civilization.

CHAPTER II.

MOUNDBUILDERS IN PRESTON.

OCCUPATION AS A HUNTING GROUND—THEORY SUBMITTED—MOUNDS
—CREMATIONISTS—RELICS.

The Moundbuilders in Preston must have come up Cheat in conformity with the great law that governed the race, in following the rivers and settling in their valleys. They had a great fort at Brownsville on the Monongahela, on whose site was built the celebrated Red Stone Old Fort. All evidence tends to sustain their coming from that point up the Monongahela, and leaving other bands to continue up the Monongahela. A band however turned their steps up Cheat.

The absence of forts, the indispensable accompaniment of their established settlements would indicate their intention of but temporary residence, while the amount of bones in their interment mounds would show temporary occupation for many years; no doubt made for hunting the game won derfully abundant upon Cheat. The bones of children in the mounds and the remains of ancient pottery found prove that they brought their families and lived on the river close to their burial mounds while temporarily here. That they were large is established by their bones; that there were giants among them is proved by the wonderful large bones found interspersed through the mounds, showing that some of them were about seven feet high, while the majority were from five feet eight inches to six feet in hight.

They threw up interment mounds at three places in Preston County.

Castle Farm Mound is on the west side of Cheat, on a ridge between Lick and Fringle's run, about five miles south from Kingwood.

In the base of the mound was a layer of bones; men, women and children having been buried in a sitting position, placed in a circle, with their feet out. Bits of charcoal scattered through ashes, and the bones showing to a greater or less extent the effect of fire, tell plainly the story that they burned their dead.

Above this layer a couple of feet is a second buried in the same manner as the first; and directly above it, in the top, are found Indian dead.

Goff Farm Mounds.—There are three in number, in form rather long, and were interment mounds. They were found on the farm of Andrew Goff, seven miles above Rowlesburg, on the east bank of Cheat, where one yet remains, the other two having been torn down and removed some years ago. The bones in the bottom of these mounds showed evidence of fire, while no such traces were shown in the top.

Sandy Creek Mound is the third and last in the county, and is situated on the old McGill farm, three miles east of Fellowsville, on a ridge between the forks of Little Sandy. It was about 15 feet high and 25 feet across at the base being circular in form, and was used as an interment mound. Its summit was crowned with a large ash tree. The Indians had buried in its top, and the Moundbuilders in the base.

That the Moundbuilders were cremationists is beyond doubt. This is established by the appearance of the bones, which everywhere show the action of fire, as well as by the ashes and charcoal found. Most probably they placed the corpses in a sitting posture, and piled wood around them and fired it. On the remains earth was thrown. The dead were placed in one at a time. When one of their people died, the mound was opened, the corpse was placed beside the one last put in, and the fiery process repeated. A careful examination of the bones show no traces of death by vio-

lence, and seems to contradict the theory that all the dead in these mounds were slain in great battles.

From this mound, the writer obtained a strange skull out of the top layer of bones. Digging down, we came upon several skulls in the bottom layer, but could not get them out, as they crumbled to pieces in our hands; finally the top of one was secured, and where the sutures meet on the top of the Caucasian head, they were prevented in this head by a small bone of about one inch in length by one half inch in width, of a peculiar shape. All the other skulls possessed this same peculiar bone. The top of the skull secured and the others that crumbled, showed the heads of the race to have been long and narrow, with low foreheads, and long narrow faces.

The Hon. James C. McGrew and others, in 1834, excavated this mound, and found in it a peculiar shaped stone pipe, and a very peculiar stone relic in the shape of an hour-glass, which was mechanically constructed, neatly dressed, and capable of being used for the purpose of recording time. It might have been captured and placed in the mound for safe keeping by an Indian; as the Moundbuilder is supposed to have left Asia when the sun-dial was used, and before the invention and introduction of the hour-glass. Fragments of ancient pottery have been plowed up close to the Sandy Creek mound similar in appearance to the ancient ware described in the "Antiquities of the West" and the "Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley."

The fate of the Moundbuilders of Preston must have been the same as that of their whole race. When the race left the Mississippi Valley, those of Preston forsook their summer hunting-ground here, and added their numbers to swell the migratory columns again in motion toward sunnier regions farther south.

SAVAGE PERIOD---THE INDIANS.

CHAPTER III. GENERAL HISTORY.

ORIGIN AND OCCUPATION OF THE UNITED STATES: THEORIES HELD—FAMILIES—STONE HEAPS.

Twilight deepens—the Moundbuilder is retreating. Night darkens—the Indian is advancing. Whence comes he? One theory credits the Indians as being descendants of the Jews. Succeeding theories blended them with the Carthagenians, traced them to the Phenicians, derived them from the Egyptians, rendered them of the Grecians, established them of the Romans, gave them origin of the Northmen, and made them natives of the soil. The best supported and most plausible theory of their origin is that they are of Mongolian extraction; that while the wave of population in the Old World was from east to west, in the New World was from north to south; that the Indian was the second wave of population from Asia following in the track of the first wave, the Moundbuilder who was then leaving this country and sweeping southward to the plains of Mexico and Peru.

The first fact in favor of the Indians being of Mongolian extraction is that all their traditions state that they came from the North. The second is the grammatical affinity of all the Indian languages constituting the sixth or American group of languages, which in principle of formation and grammatical construction bears unquestionable resemblance

to the Tartar or third group of languages which is one of the two great language-families of the Mongolian race.

The Indian occupation of the United States admits of two theories: first, a peaceable possession; second, a forcible possession. The first is the most likely, as the Moundbuilders were a semi-civilized race, and from their great works it is fair to presume as strong in numbers as the Indian invaders. But it is a fair presumption, that between the inferior-advancing and the superior-retreating races, the clash of mortal conflict would be inevitable. The withdrawal of the Moundbuilder from the field of battle after repulsing his Indian foe, to resume his south-ward journey, would give to the Indian the idea that his enemy had fled; and on this his tradition of conquest, repeated to white prisoners in 1754–5, was undoubtedly founded.

Difference in language caused division into tribes of the Indians of the United States. They were divided into eight great families: Algonquin, Iroquois, Catawbas, Cherokees, Uchees, Mobilians, Natches and Dacotahs or Sioux. The great plains, the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Coast, were in possession of powerful tribes not in the above division. Each family was divided into numerous tribes and these tribes were generally engaged in bloody wars with each other.

The Indians east of the Mississippi were tall, and straight as arrows, with long, coarse, black hair which they generally kept shaved off, except the scalp lock; high cheek bones and black piercing eyes. Their limbs were supple by exercise and their muscles hardened by constant exposure to the weather.

Their dress was the skins of wild animals, smoked or tanned with the brains of the animals killed. Their wigwams were poles stuck in the ground and bent together at the top, covered with chestnut and birch bark. Their weapons, warclubs. bows and arrows, and stone tomahawks, until they procured iron tomahawks and guns from the white traders. Their boats were log and birch bark canoes.

Their religion was the worship of the Great Spirit, and they believed there was a happy hunting ground in the spirit-land beyond the mountains of the setting sun, where brave warriors went at death and pursued the chase forever and ever; but which no coward was ever permitted to enter.

Their laws were the customs handed down in the traditions of the old men. An offense against custom was punished by exclusion from society. If the offense was murder, it was punished by the nearest kinsman of the slain.

Their legislation was enacted by the grand council called together by the chief of the tribe upon the urgency or necessity of the occasion, where the disposition of all questions rested upon the votes of the whole tribe, and where commencing with the chief all had a right to speak.

Each tribe had its head chief or sachem. The succession of this office was sometimes hereditary—even in the elevation of a queen; sometimes was bestowed for ability and bravery upon a warrior of an other tribe, if he was living with them and was brave and daring.

Each tribe had its medicine man, who, in addition to gathering herbs to effect cures, was its historian, teaching the young braves the traditions of their fathers, and to count time by the moon—as so many moons ago such a thing happened. Some tribes could only count up to ten, others up to ten thousand. The medicine man and the old men taught the young brave never to forgive an injury or forget a kindness. They taught him that sternness was a virtue and tears were womanish, and if captured and burning at the stake to let no torture draw a groan or sigh from him; but to taunt his enemies, recite his deeds of prowess, and sing his deathsong. He was also taught that the great object of life was to distinguish himself in war and to slay his enemies. He was taught to be faithful to any treaty he made; and to use

any deceit or practice any treachery upon an enemy was honorable, and that it was no disgrace to kill an enemy wherever found, even if unarmed.

Marriage among the Indians was attended with but little ceremony. An Indian could have several wives at one time if he wished, but seldom had more than one. The husband furnished the meat by hunting, and the wife or squaw raised the corn and did all the work. The husband when at home did not labor, so his limbs would not be stiffened, but would remain supple for war and the chase. The husband could leave his wife when he pleased, but on separation the children remained with the wife, and she kept the wigwam and dha the privilege to marry again.

The Indian copied after the Moundbuilder. He used flint to make his arrow- and spear-heads, and stone to make his tomahawks, hammers, pestles and ornaments; clay and shells to make his pottery ware, but failed to work copper, and had lost all trace of the mines left by the Moundbuilders.

The stone-grave chamber of the Moundbuilder suggested the stone-pile grave of the Indian.

Stones of memorial constituted the second class of his stone heaps. They were thrown up in heaps at the crossing of trails, and on the summit of some mountain, and each Indian that passed added a stone. "Lawson's Carolina," published in 1709, at page 309. makes mention of the Indians in the South piling up these memorial heaps. They were piled up in Asia by the Hindoos, according to "Coleman's Hindoo Mythology," page 271.

The earliest mention we have of memorial stones was when the Children of Israel passed over Jordan, and Joshua pitched twelve stones as a memorial heap in Gilgal, to commemorate Israel's passing over on dry land. Joshua 4:22. And the earliest mention we have of stones piled over the dead is in II Samuel 18:17, when Absalom was cast into a great pit and a great heap of stones laid on him.

Stone circles existed as the third class of the Indian

stone-heaps, being stones piled in a great circle and sometimes placed standing, inside of which the East Virginia Indians gathered and went through a great many ceremonies, according to Berkly's History of Virginia, page 164.

CHAPTER IV.

INDIAN TRIBES IN PRESTON.

PRESTON A COMMON HUNTING-GROUND — WAR-PATHS — STONE-PILES—RELICS.

The great Algonquin Indian nation occupied the New England States, the eastern portion of the Middle States, Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illmois and Wisconsin. When white settlements were made west of the Blue Ridge they were retiring toward the Ohio River. When settlements were commenced west of Laurel Hill Ridge after the capture of Fort DuQuesne, about 1763, they had left the Monongahela Valley, and only came back from the Ohio River on hunting expeditions, and to plunder and murder the white settlers. They had but few towns while residents of the Monongahela Valley south of Pittsburgh; and as far as can be ascertained had nothing but hunting camps upon the soil of Preston County.

Cusick gives the following tradition accounting for the scarcity of Indian towns in the Monongahela Valley: The Moundbuilders, twenty-two hundred years before Columbus discovered America, lived in a Golden City in the south, under a great emperor. This emperor invaded the Mississippi Valley, and built all its mounds. The Indians, coming from the north, drove him back after terrible fighting, and divided the country among themselves, excepting the Monongahela Valley, over which various tribes waged long and bloody wars. They finally called a grand council, and agreed that no tribe was to inhabit it or build towns on its soil, but

that, on account of its wonderful abundance of game, it was to remain a common hunting-ground for all the tribes

What tribes of the Algonquin family inhabited Preston? The first settlers could not tell, as the tribes had left, and the Indians who came to harrass them were mainly Ohio Indians, of which the Shawnees and Delawares were supposed to have been former occupants of the county.

Jefferson in his "Notes" divides the Algonquin Indians of Virginia into four branches: the Powhatan thirty-tribe confederation, the Mannahoac four-tribe confederation, the Monacans east of the Alleghanies, and the Massowomees west and extending back to Ohio. The Massawomees were at war with the Mannahoacs and Powhatans, having the Monacans as their allies. But of what tribes this Massawomee Confederacy was composed Jefferson could not tell.

After diligent search nothing authentic can be found to indicate with certainty what tribes inhabited Preston beyond the fact that the Shawnees and Delawares in October, 1767, forbade Mason and Dixon to run their celebrated line any farther west. Mason and Dixon at the time being on the second crossing of Dunkard Creek, between Monongalia Co., W. Va., and Greene Co., Pa., and having just finished during Sept. that part of their line now between Preston Co., W. Va., and Fayette Co., Pa. This fact would indicate their possession or even occupation of Monongalia and I reston, as in the record of this fact they are styled tenants of the country.

George Croghan in 1759, was a deputy agent of Indian affairs and reported 1100 Shawnees and Delawares as resident tribes on the Ohio and Sciota rivers and Lake Erie, but makes no mention of any resident tribes on the Monongahela and Cheat Rivers. Col. Boquet's report of 1764 is the same, only in point of numbers he gives 1000 as the number of the two tribes and this was three years before Mason and Dixon were stopped by them. In 1768, but one year after Mason and Dixon were stopped, Capt. Hutchins visited these tribes

and makes the same report of their permanent residence only in point of numbers placing them at 900.

These reports show: first, that the Shawnees and Delawares (or Linnelinopies, as sometimes called) were residents in Ohio in 1759; second, that no tribes were residents on Cheat after 1759. Mason and Dixon's record of stoppage by them in 1767, shows them as temporary residents on the Monongahela. Their orders to Mason and Dixon to leave, would come from a sense of temporary ownership of more than a single summer, and would warrant the conclusion that they came here regularly to hunt and did not want any clearing out of the forest to drive away the game.

The great Catawba War-Path crossed Cheat River just beyond the Preston and Monongalia line, and ran from the Carolinas to New York. Southern bands of Indians passed and repassed over it, especially the Catawbas. Hunting as they traveled, it is probable that they were often on the waters of Cheat in Preston.

A great many persons suppose the Indians traveled in the forest during the day by the sun and the moss on the trees, and at night by the north star. In extreme cases they did and were enabled to travel great distances by these means, yet they had their roads from town to town and from point to point, the same as we have. Their roads were paths broke through the forest, some just wide enough for a single pony to pass over, and were often called trails; while others were cut out and beaten down almost wide enough for a wagon to pass over, and called war-paths. Several of these Indian paths crossed Preston.

The Great War-Path running from the Ohio to the South Branch (of the Fotomac) entered Preston from Monongalia, passed through the McMillen farm, by Masontown, then through Thomas Watson's farm, and north of Reedsville, running in some places with the present Morgantown and Kingwood turnpike; then north of Kingwood and crossing Cheat River at the Dunkard Bottom, kept down that stream a couple of miles, and crossed the mountain, passing

between Willey P. O. and Portland, and left the county in the vicinity of Cranesville, where it entered Maryland.

Southern Branch.—Between Masontown and Reedsville this branch left the great war-path, passing by Gladesville, and crossing between Independence and Newburg, followed York's Run, leaving it near its mouth at the Coffin Rock, kept south of Evansville, coming into the north-west trail at Ice's mill on Big Sandy.

North—West Trail.—This trail was a path that entered the county from Maryland, near Mt. Carmel, and keeping pretty much along the ridges, crossed Cheat River near the bridge at Deakins's, then keeping with the Northwestern Turnpike in its ascent of the mountain, left it about a halfmile east of William H. Brown's; and passing through Chalmber's Glenn farm by the Indian Foot Rock, on which were cut pictures of birds and beasts and a large number of feet. It ran here with the old Clarksburg road, and keeping south of Fellowsville and Evansville to Ice's mill on Big Sandy, where it was joined by the Southern Branch.

Northern Trail.—This trail entered the county from the Murley glades in Maryland, came north of Cranesville, through the Crab Orchard, passed near Jehu Jenkins's and Joseph N. Miller's, and through the Metzler farm, crossing Little Sandy, and then Big Sandy near Bruceton, and keeping north to Wymps Gap, then through it to Cheat, and leading into the vicinity of Morgantown.

Indian dead are buried all over the county in stone-pile graves, on the tops of high hills. From these graves, many relics have been obtained, as stone tomahawks, disks, plates and pestles; while arrow heads and spear points are found on almost every farm in some parts of the county.

CIVILIZED PERIOD-THE WHITE RACE.

CHAPTER V.

PRESTON UNDER ORANGE.

THE TERRITORY OF PRESTON UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ORANGE COUNTY, 1734-1738.

On a savage night gloom falls the day-break rays of the world's greatest civilization. The Indian stubbornly retires. The White man determinedly advances.

With the dawn of the Eighteenth Century, the banner of England waved in unbroken supremacy along the Atlantic coast from Maine to Georgia, established by settlement or planted by conquest, and westward had been carried in Virginia to the foot of the Blue Ridge.

The Blue Ridge as the western boundary of civilization, was first crossed by Col. Alexander Spottswood, Governor of the Colony of Virginia, in 1713, with a troop of horse. For this feat, and the discovery of the beautiful valley beyond called the Valley of Virginia, the King of England conferred upon him the honor of knighthood, and sent him a golden horse-shoe engraved with the motto, "Sic jurat transcedere montes"—Thus he swears to cross the mountains.

In 1634 Virginia was divided into eight shires, and from one of these shires among other counties erected, were Essex, King William, and King Queen. In 1720 from portions of these three counties a county was formed and called Spottsylvania, in honor of Colonel Alexander Spottswood. In

1730 Spottsylvania was divided into two parishes, the southern one called St. George, and the northern one St. Marks.

In 1734 Spottsylvania was divided; the parish of St. George to be still called Spottsylvania, and St. Marks by one account to be called Orange County in honor of William, Prince of Orange. Howe in his Historical Collections, page 417, says, "It was called Orangε on account of the color of the soil in one part of the county.

In 1734 Orange County was established, and its limits were extended so as to comprise the whole of Virginia west of the Blue Ridge.

Into the Valley of Virginia came a tide of immigration from Pennsylvania and Maryland, by way of Harper's Ferry, which caused the Colonial legislature four years later, in 1738, to restrict Orange to that portion of her territory east of the Blue Ridge, and to carve two counties out of her territory lying westward, namely, Frederick and Augusta, in honor of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Frederick County comprised the northern part of the Valley of Virginia, with Winchester as its county seat. Augusta comprised the southern part of the Valley, and all the remainder of Virginia west of the Blue Ridge, with Staunton as its county-seat.

CHAPTER VI.

PRESTON UNDER AUGUSTA.

MURDER OF THE DUNKARDS—PRINGLE'S CAMP—FIRST PERMANENT SETTLEMENTS—MORRIS'S FORT—BUTLER'S FORT, 1738–1776.

In 1738, Augusta was formed out of that part of Orange west of the Blue Ridge, and named in honor of Augusta of Saxe-Gotha, consort of Frederick, Prince of Wales. Augusta embraced the southern part of the Valley of Virginia, and all the vast stretch of Virginia west of the Valley. Its territory to-day comprises four States and more than forty counties of West Virginia.

Gen. Gooch was Governor at the time of its creation, and served until 1752. During his administration a tide of immigration poured into the Valley of Virginia by way of Harper's Ferry from Pennsylvania and Maryland, and thence swept westward over into the South Branch Valley, where Washington surveyed Lord Fairfax's South Branch manor in 1747–48.

Preston County as a part of the western territory of Augusta was an unbroken wilderness. No white man prior to 1748 had ever trod upon its soil; but in this year Indian traders from Wills Creek (now Cumberland, Md.,) passed not quite three miles northwest of it on their way to the "Forks of the Ohio," to trade with the Indians, and perhaps passing so close that some of them may have wandered from a camp-fire to the soil of Preston in quest of game to replenish a diminished larder.

In 1752, Robert Dinwiddie became Governor of the Colony

of Virginia. His weak course and bad policy caused a feeling of insecurity along the whole western frontier, and with the alarming reports, a year later, of French encroachments upon the Ohio, put a check upon the westward-setting tide of emigration.

During this year a dispute about boundary lines arose between Virginia and Pennsylvania—Virginia claiming Greene, Fayette and a portion of Alleghany County upon which Pittsburgh stands, as belonging to Augusta County, and Pennsylvania laying claim to the territory of the present counties of Preston, Monongalia, Marion, Taylor and a portion of Tucker, Barbour and Harrison.

Washington's battle at Fort Necessity, in 1754, was only 9 miles northeast of Preston; but the crash of the death-dealing musketry, echoing along the mountains' rocky walls, fell on no inhabited spot; was heard by no white man in the nameless valleys of Preston. When Washington retreated, the few white settlers in the Monongahela Valley who had all gathered at Fort Necessity, fell back with him; and Braddock's defeat the succeeding year, at the battle of the Monongahela, left the whole country west of Laurel Hill Ridge in possession of the French and Indians, and stayed the westward tide of emigration. In the meanwhile the Indians crossed Preston and adjoining counties, by numerous trails over the mountains, and harassed the whole frontier, even to the Blue Ridge, driving back scouting parties and attacking forts.

About 1755 or 1756, as near as can be ascertained, Dr. Thomas Eckarly and his two brothers, whose names have not been preserved, left eastern Pennsylvania and camped on the Monongahela River at the mouth of a creek about 10 miles below Morgantown. They left their homes and friends, not on account of being of an adventurous disposition, but because they were liable to be called out any day to fight the Indians, as they were Dunkards, or German Baptists, whose religious faith is opposed to all war as wrong. Rather than violate their religious convictions by bearing arms, they

sought an asylum in the western wilds, where they could worship God according to the dictates of conscience, and be at peace with all mankind, even if life itself was one incessant round of toil and deprivation.

Exploring the country for some time, in order to find a suitable site for a home outside the bounds of warring races, they were the first white men to tread the soil of Preston County, of whom we have any account. The bottom land of Cheat River that bears their name, as a secluded spot and fertile soil, suited them. They returned to their camp, and gathering up their few effects, left the creek whose waters bear the name of their religious following and removed to their selected site. Having built a cabin, enough of the season remained for them to raise a small quantity of corn, meanwhile their guns kept a well stocked larder of meat. They lived thus in seclusion for two or three years, when at length their ammunition being nearly gone, and their supply of salt well-nigh exhausted, Dr. Thomas Eckarly took a pack of furs and started on a path leading eastward, to find a settlement, and to trade for a fresh supply of ammunition, salt and shirting. This path he traveled could have been none other than the Great Warpath.

The path led him to a settlement on the Shenandoan, and disposing of his pack, he laid in his neccessary supplies and started on his homeward trip. On his way he stopped at Fort I leasant on the South Branch. Having made known his residence on Cheat, and the length of time he had been there, it aroused the suspicions of the people, and charges were made against him of being a spy sent there by the Indians to ascertain the condition of Fort Pleasant. His protestations were not believed, and he was confined as a prisoner. By earnest pleading, Dr. Eckarly obtained his release upon these conditions: he was to pursue his journey as a prisoner under an armed guard, and if they found his state ments false, they were to bring him back to be dealt with as a renegade and Indian spy.

While the doctor was gone the blood-thirsty Indian came

to his home on Cheat. Unavailing was the plea of the poor Dunkards that they were at peace with all men, and loved their red brothers as well as their white brothers. The Indian believed it not, because they occupied his lands without purchase. Unmoved was the heart of the Indian by their petition for life, and the merciless tomahawk descended upon the unresisting heads of the poor Dunkards.

When the guard in charge of the doctor arrived a few days after the murder, a terrible spectacle greeted their awe stricken gaze—a pile of ashes where the cabin had been—in the yard the two mutilated bodies upon which had been wreaked all the savage indignities of Indian hate, and but a few steps from them lay the hoops over which their scalps had been dried, while their fields of corn were trampled down and destroyed. After burying the bodies, the guard returned to Fort Pleasant, and Dr. Thomas Eckarly not wishing to remain on a spot where his brothers had been murdered, returned with the guard to the Fort.

Thus crimsoned with the blood of the poor Dunkards was written the first page of the history of the Anglo-Saxon occupation of Preston County.

In 1858, Dinwiddie sailed for England, and Francis Fauquier arrived as Governor, whose administration was highly beneficial to the Colony.

In November, 1758, General Forbes captured Fort DuQuesne, and changed its name to Fort Fitt. This capture broke the power of the French in the Ohio Valley, and Indian depredations decreased both in number and extent.

In 1761, William Childers, Joseph Lindsey, John Pringle and Samuel Pringle, soldiers of the garrison of Fort Fitt, deserted and ascended the Monongahela to the locality where New Geneva, Pa., now stands. Not liking the place, they crossed Chestnut Ridge by the old Braddock Road, and came into the glades on the head waters of the Youghiogheny, about two and one half miles east of Aurora. These were the second white men in Freston, of whom we have any au-

thentic account. They encamped here, and hunted In I762, Samuel Pringle discovered a path leading east. He communicated this discovery to his comrades, and they all concluded to follow it, in hopes it might lead to a settlement. It led them to the Looney Creek settlement.

They remained there but a short time, till they were recognized as deserters, and Childers and Lindsay were arrested. The Pringles escaped, and returned to their hunting camp. In 1764, John Simpson followed out the path they had traveled, and finding their camp, employed them to help him obtain furs. About this time the adjoining glades in Maryland began to be visited by hunters from the South Branch, which caused the Pringles to fear for their safety. They induced Simpson to remove farther west, to enjoy hunting grounds free from the intrusion of these hunters, now dividing the game with them. They left, went farther south, and again Preston had not a white man on its soil.

Some of the Indian tribes complained to the English authorities that the land west of Laurel Hill was being occupied by the white man, without being purchased from the Indian; and, in 1763, we find a proclamation issued by the King of England against settling on any lands on the waters westward of the Alleghany mountains, and Gov. Fauquier also issued a proclamation forbidding settlements on these lands. The territory of Preston was claimed by Virginia, and placed under her jurisdiction; and yet settlement on its soil was forbidden by the Governor, on the ground that it yet belonged to the Indians.

In 1765, Sir William Johnson's treaty with the Indians brought peace for a short space of time on the border, and the stream of emigration, once more unfettered, poured rapidly west of the Alleghany mountains, unmindful of the King and the Governor's proclamations.

In September 1767, Mason and Dixon run their celebrated line along the northern boundary of Preston through an unbroken wilderness, and were ordered back by the Shawnees and Delawares but a few miles east of where Preston and Monongalia now corner upon the said line. In this same year, Lawrence Harrison in right of George Washington, located 267 acres of land in Augusta County, embracing the site of Fort Necessity, and Washington received a land certificate for it from Virginia. During this year, Governor Fau quier, one of Virginia's ablest Governors, died and was succeeded in 1768 by Lord Bottetourt.

In 1763, Governor Penn of Pennsylvania sent out the Rev. John Steele to notify all settlers west of the Alleghanies to remove east of the mountains. He found families on Cheat, and at the crossing of the "Little Yough," but none of them were in Preston. It is needless to say that the settlers gave no heed to the warning. About this time, hunters from Pennsylvania and Maryland frequented the forbidden mountains and streams of Preston in search of game, which was very plentiful.

From all traces of early settlers that we have been enabled to find, James Clark and John Judy were the first permanent settlers on the soil of Preston, in 1769.

James Clark came to America in 1762, from Ireland, and was on Big Sandy Creek in 1769, about one mile north of where Clifton Mills now stands. His farm is now known as the Pysel place.

An old patent issued to Judy in Monongalia County, in 1783, accompanied with an old survey, records the date of his settlement right in 1769, of a tract of land situated on the waters of Big Sandy, now a portion of the Squire Henry Smith farm about two miles from Bruceton. There is no account to show where he came from—only that he sold in after years and removed to Ohio.

The next settlement made, of which we have any account, was by Samuel Worral and his son Samuel who, in 1770, came out from Philadelphia over the old Braddock road, and by settlement right occupied and afterward patented tracts of lands in "Sandy Creek Glades." Their lands are now included in the farms of Jesse Spurgin and others.

the same time, Richard Morris, Zebulon Hoge and Daniel Greathouse, came from Pennsylvania to this locality and took large tracts of land by settlement rights. Ezekiel Worley, a great sickle maker, came shortly after this and settled close to Morris's. They all settled under the impression that they were within the boundaries of Pennsylvania. During this year James Walls settled on the east side of Cheat in the northern part of the county.

Settlement Rights.—Doddridge in his Notes says: "Building a cabin and raising a crop of grain, however small, of any kind, entitled the occupant to four hundred acres of land, and a pre-emption right to one thousand acres more. At an early period Virginia appointed three commissioners to give certificates of settlement-rights. These certificates, to gether with the surveyor's plat, were sent to the land office of the State, where they lay six months, to await any cavear which might be offered. If none was offered, the patent was then issued."

In 1771 Lord Bottetourt died, and Lord Dunmore succeeded him as Governor in 1772, and this year Jacob and Martin Judy settled on Big Sandy Creek near where Clifton Mills now stands. From 1770 to 1773 the territory of Preston became quite famous as a hunting ground, hunters from the South Branch, Maryland and Pennsylvania scouring its hills and dales. In 1773, William, Hugh and Patrick Morgan settled on the Dunkard Bottom, on the west side of Cheatabout two miles from the dense forest, then towering with stately trees where Kingwood now stands, while Robert Butler and others settled on the east side, and the territory of Preston now began to attract the attention of a steady, reliable class of people desirous of building up homes—making permanent settlements.

The Great Survey.—In this year, according to the old surveyors, commenced the survey known as the Claibourne and Moylan, or Great Survey. They ran their lines on the west side of Cheat River commencing just above where

Kingwood stands, and extending into the Monongalia glades near where Masontown is situated, and then embracing nearly all the lands in what is now Preston on the west side of Cheat, and extending over into what is now Tucker County. This survey embraced about 99,000 acres of land, of which about 50,000 acres were in Preston. Some tracts of lands, owned or claimed by others, were included in this great survey. They did not stop to run their lines around them, but ran on including them, and afterward if required, threw them out, as an easier task than to stop and run around them.

In 1774, the partial peace of the frontier was again broken by a general resumption of hostilities on the part of the Indians. Although the frontier line of settlement was beyond the territory of Preston, yet a feeling of insecurity possessed the few settlers and checked again the tide of immigration from the East. A discontented feeling existed in the Colony of Virginia, occasioned by the encroachment of England's rulers upon its rights, and the inhabitants thought more of armed resistance against the mother country, than of pushing westward to acquire lands and make new homes.

We find mention in this year of Morris's Fort, on the lands of Richard Morris, where the settlers of a portion of Washington County, Pennsylvania, repaired over the old Sandy Creek road, for safety and protection. Butler's Fort, at the mouth of Roaring Creek on Cheat River, is also mentioned; and likely both forts were erected this year. The settlers forted during the summer, but were not molested; the year passed with no Indian incursions, and 1775 came with rumors of war between the Colonies and England.

Seventeen hundred and seventy six found the settlers'numbers increased by but few accessions, and still forting in apprehension of Indian attacks. Lord Dunmore, Governor of the Colony, who had been plotting for two years to hold Virginia in subjection to England, had retired on board a ship, and was endeavoring to wage war against the Colony by freeing the slaves of the murmuring colonists. He sent

the notorious John Connelly to incite the Indians upon the frontier to renew hostilities, and to raise a regiment of Tories in the western part of the Colony. The Colony declared that Dunmore had abdicaced by his flight, and elected Patrick Henry Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

We have traced the history of the territory of Preston from 1738 to 1776, as a part of that portion of the County of Augusta defined in 1776 as the District of West Augusta. We have traced its existence first as an unbroken wilderness—next its attempted settlement by the Dunkards and their murder by the Indians, and then a pioneer period extending from the first permanent settlements in 1769 to 1776, the year of the Declaration of Independence, in which year we chronicle its separation from Augusta, and make record of it as a part of Monongalia, one of the three counties into which the District of West Augusta was divided by act of the General Assembly of Virginia.

CHAPTER VII

PRESTON UNDER MONONGALIA

PATRICK MORGAN, MILLER'S ESCAPE, FIELDS KHLED, MARTIN WETZEL'S ADVENTURE, VIEW OF FRONTIER LIFE—A PERIOD OF IMPROVEMENT—JACOB WETZEL'S ADVENTURE WITH INDIANS—JOHN GREENE MURDERED—WAR OF 1812—MOVEMENT FOR A NEW COUNTY.—1776—1818.

By an act of the General Assembly of Virginia, in 1776. the boundaries of the district of West Augusta were defined. It extended from the western boundaries of Maryland and Pennsylvania to the Ohio River, comprising all of Northwestern Virginia, and a considerable portion of what afterwards became Pennsylvania: while the remainder of Au gusta County beyond the Ohio became the celebrated North West Territory, and that portion lying west of the Big Sandy River, was designated as the South West Territory. This act divided the district of West Augusta into three counties. Ohio, Yohogania and Monongalia. Monongalia and Yohogania constituted a large portion of the territory in dispute between Virginia and Pennsylvania. The Mason and Dixon line of 1767 not being accepted by either as a bounnary, and both claimed and attempted to exercise jurisdiction over the controverted territory. After the establishment of Mason and Dixon's line, extended in 1782. Yohogania, being nearly all in Pennsylvania, was made a part of Fayette and other counties, except a small western portion lying in Virginia and attached to Ohio County, and Yohogauia is known to-day as the "lost county."

By this act of Assembly, the territory of Preston became the northeastern part of Monongalia County. Thomas Chips, in 1776, settled near where Willey Post Office now is. The settlers still forted from fear of Indians led on by British emissaries and American tories. During 1777, we find traces of a few settlers coming in, and first mention of the Brains, Powels, and Dillons. The year passed with occasional alarms of Indians. 1778 opened with alarms of Indians, the same as 1777 had closed. On the 11th of April. according to the Chronicles of Border Warfare, a party of Indians came to the Dunkard bottom, on the west side of Cheat, and attacked the house of Wm. Morgan, killing and scalping Morgan's mother and her grand-daughter, a Mrs. Dillon and her two small children, and a young man by the name of Brain. They took Morgan's wife and her child prisoners. They started for the Ohio, and when near Pricketts Fort, they tied Mrs. Morgan to a bush, and went to look for horse for her to ride. While they were gone, she managed to untie her bands with her teeth, and made her escapewandering all that day and part of the next, when she came in sight of the fort. Some of the settlers going out in a few days afterward, found at the spot where Mrs. Morgan made her escape, a fine mare stabbed to the heart by the Indians. exasperated at her escape, and thus venting their rage on the animal intended to carry their prisoner.

The descendants of William Morgan give a different account of this affair. Their account is as follows: when the Indians came, William Morgan's wife was washing on the bank of the river, and her little girl playing round came running to her and said she saw red men go to the house. Mrs. Morgan gathered up her child and ran to the field or clearing where Brain was plowing, and told him. He was so much excited that he never stopped to unhitch the team, but cutting the traces, placed Mrs. Morgan and child on one horse, and sprang on the other. Putting the horses to their

full speed, they soon arrived at Butler's Fort. The Indians killed a young women at the house and left

The Indians were still dreaded, and invasions feared. On the anniversary of their attack on Morgan's house, five In dians came and lay in ambush round a house on Snowy Glade Creek, some two miles from Cranberry Summit. This house was occupied by James Brain and Richard Powell. Brain's home was on Brain's run, close to Newburg; but he had moved back east, to Snowy Glade Creek for greater security, according to one account. Early on the morning of the 12th of April, 1778, ten or twelve men came out of the house, and were shooting at a mark, being travelers according to the Border Warfare. The Indians despaired of success in attacking the house, and withdrew to a distance. The travelers, after breakfast, unbeknown to the Indians. departed; and Brain (or Bran as some of his descendants claim his name to be,) and two of the Powells went to their work—carrying clapboards to cover or roof a cabin some distance from the house. The Indians in their conceal ment heard them, and determined to obtain a scalp, stole up on them, and shot Brain down, capturing his son Isaac.

Another of Brain's sons, Benjamin, and the two Powell boys, all small, were playing at a short distance. Little Ben Brain hearing the report of the gun, jumped on a stump, and for his mischief cried, "Run boys! Run! the Indians are coming!"

The two Powell boys looking up, saw three Indians stealing up toward them, and quickly obeyed Ben's command. Ben, standing on the stump with his back to the Indians, continued calling to the boys to run, and laughing at the success of his joke, was not aware of the presence of the Indians till they took hold of him. Pursuing the Powell boys they soon captured one of them; but the other remained concealed in a bunch of alders, where he had taken refuge, and they failed to discover him. The Indians brought the three boys together, and finding that the Powell

boy had but one eye, they tomahawked and scalped him on the spot.

They then hurriedly made inquiries of little Ben Erain, as to how many men were at the house, and how far it was to the nearest fort; and with an uplifted tomahawk above his head, the little fellow answered that there were twelve men at the house, and that it was but two miles to the nearest fort, although he knew the men had all left, and that the nearest fort, Butler's, was over eight miles distant. His forethought, false in fact but true in love, saved the lives of his mother. Nancy Brain, and the other women and children at the house. The Indians, fearful of these men hearing the gun, and likely to attack them, took Ben and Isaac Brain and retreated as fast as possible toward the Ohio, their starting point.

They made great sport of little Ben, and how they had captured him; often one of them would get up on a log and imitate Ben calling to the boys to run that the Indians were coming. They kept Ben six years, when he was given up at a treaty, and coming back, lived and died in Preston.

After he got back, he told that at some place in Ohio he became sick, and could not travel. They left one Indian behind with him; the next day the Indian sat down beside him, and inquired if he was any better. "Ben said he didn't know." The Indian took out his tomahawk, and looking at it, asked him if he thought he could ride. Little Ben knew well the meaning of the Indian's looking at his tomahawk, and although he felt too sick even to stand up yet he answered that he thought he could. The Indian brought up a pony, and lifting him up, put him on it.

Blind and almost fainting with pain, yet the love of life was strong within him, although but a child in a manner; and he clung to its back till they stopped for the night. The next morning he felt better, and made the journey through without further accident or incident. His bretter

Isaac was separated from him and was never heard of afterwards.

The little Powell boy, as soon as the Indians left, ran as fast as he could to Butler's Fort, and gave the alarm. A strong force of the settlers departed for the scene of slaugh ter, and moving swiftly arrived upon the ground in a short time after the Indians had left, and followed in pursuit; but the Indians had too great a start to be overtaken. It is said the party from the fort gave Nancy Brain the first intimation of her husband's death; she having heard the crack of the rifle, and supposed it was some of the travelers shooting who had left.

This murder caused the settlers to spend a good many days in the forts, apprehensive of an Indian invasion.

The prompt action of Ben Brain and the little Powell boy, resulted from the education that even children received upon the frontier. Raised amid Indians, every sense was sharpened, even in childhood, to protect themselves against Indian invasions, and attacks on their cabins.

An other account is given of this murder, differing somewhat from the above. Mrs. Elizabeth Jefferys says she has heard her mother, who was a daughter of Nancy Brain, tell that James Brain (or Bran) had just come from England, and was putting up a stable. He and his son were carrying clapboards and her mother, Nancy Brain, heard the clapboards fall, and looking out, saw that they were shot. The boy, that the Indians put up on a stump and shot, she says was a bound boy and blind of an eye. With these exceptions, her account agrees with the others.

During the remainder of the year, nothing of historic interest occurred in Monongalia, on the territory of Preston.

Virginia appointed commissionere in this year, (1779) to meet commissioners from Pennsylvania at Baltimore, in order to decide the boundary line between the two Commonwealths. They decided that the Mason and Dixon line run between Maryland and Pennsylvania, should be extended 5 degrees from the river Delaware, and then run northward to

the line of North Latitude, 42 degrees; which was ratified by Pennsylvania in November, and by Virginia in June 1780 and the agreement as to this line, while it ended Pennsylvania's claims to the territory of Preston and several adjoining counties, yet it gave to Pennsylvania all of Youghogania and the northern part of Monongalia County.

Up to this time the court of Monongalia had met upon the "plantation" of Theophilus Phillips some two miles from the mouth of George's Creek, where New Geneva Pennsylvania was since built, while a town in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, was laid out by the name of Mifflintown for the county seat. It is now known by the name of Woodbridgetown, and is about six miles from the Preston County line.

By this settlement of the boundary line, the inhabitants of Cheat were no longer required to travel to the "plantation" of Theophilus Phillips, in order to attend court, but henceforth went to Morgantown as the county-seat.

During this year an Indian expedition of 300 picked warriors crossed the Ohio River, in two divisions of 150 each, one crossing above, and the other below Wheeling. This expedition was intended to avoid the stronger forts, lay desolate the country from the Ohio to Washington, then called Catfishtown. It proceeded but a short distance on its route after the columns united, till, becoming fearful from the accounts of their prisoners that the whites were gathering a force at Wheeling to cut off their retreat, the chiefs held a council, and retreated after murdering a part of their prisoners.

When the lower division crossed the Ohio, scouts discovered it, and the alarm was spread, each settlement dreading that it might lie in the desolating line of the Indians' fiendish march of death. The settlers at Butler's and Morris's forts were greatly alarmed upon receiving the news, fearful that its track of desolation might sweep over their settlements, well knowing that their two rude stockade forts would be no defense against such a large body of savages. They were

highly rejoiced when the tidings came that the Indians had fallen back across the Ohio.

At the close of the Revolutionary War, again westward turned the tide of immigration, so long suspended while the Colonies were waging the war of Independence; and the territory of Preston received its share of that emigration.

Somewhere between 1778 and 1781, occurred the murder of Patrick Morgan by a scouting party of seven Indians. As handed down by descendants of the family, it appears that Morgans were either raking off a stubble or piling brush, and Patrick had a rake, and was raking. At dinner time, the rest started for the house, while Patrick lingered behind to complete a pile, before starting to the house for his dinner. The others had reached the house, and looking back, perceived seven Indians circling around Patrick, who was trying to fight them off and get his gun, which was standing a short distance away. The Indians appeared desirous of not shooting him, and bent on his capture; but as he seemed to be on the point of reaching his gun, one of the Indians drove a tomahawk into the back of his head, and he fell dead, and was scalped by the Indians.

Upon the discovery of the Indians by those at the house, William Morgan grasped his gun, determined to join in the struggle; but Hugh Morgan and the man that was helping, whose name was Wildey Taylor, grabbed him and held him, fearing that a part of the force being concealed, they would lose their lives and accomplish nothing.

After killing Patrick Morgan, the Indians took down over the bank of the river, and disappeared, not seeming to have any desire to attack the house standing in plain view.

During this same period of time, a man by the name of Miller came out, and camped on Cheat about two miles back from the wooded eminence where Kingwood now stands. Awakened one night by a noise, he saw an Indian flit behind a tree, and awaking his two sons, they crawled noiselessly to the river bank but a few feet away, and reached a secure hid-

ing place. The Indians came round the deserted camp-fire, but did not make any search and soon departed.

Miller left the next day, and went back to the Shenandoah. John Miller, one of his sons, but a mere boy then, came back in a few years, and took up a tract of land upon part of which Kingwood now stands.

Between the years 1776 and 1781, a man by the name of Ashcraft had a hunting camp near where Masontown stands. In these years came the Menears, and settled in the vicinity of Reedsville; the Zinns, in the neighborhood of Zinn's, now Brown's. Mill: and the Fields, in the forests not far from the present stirring little village of Gladesville.

One of the Fields, whose Christian name is not preserved, was killed and scalped during this time, by a roving party of Indians. Fields was a hunter, and had been hunting in the neighborhood of Reedsville, where his body was found at a spring, one day, by some hunters. He had been shot and scalped. The hunters supposed, from all appearances, that Fields had lain down to drink at the spring, and being discovered, was shot while in the act of drinking.

Lewis, Martin, George and Jacob Wetzel often stopped at Wolfe's when they were traveling in the direction of the South Branch. It was about this time that Martin Wetzel, on his way to Wheeling, was pursued by Indians on the east side of Cheat, on the Dunkard Bottom, and his shot-pouch catching fast in a bush, and holding firmly, he had to stop to disengage himself; but before he could make a move, one of the Indians fired at him, and the ball cut off the bush and Martin continued his flight with the bush hanging to him some distance before he could stop to relieve himself, as the Indians were close upon him. He soon distanced them, after crossing Cheat. Some time afterward, coming to Jacob Wolfe's, he related this adventure, among others with the Indians.

During this period of time, the settlers came into the territory of Preston, bringing all their worldly goods out on

pack horses. Their goods consisted of the mere necessaries life.

A little iron and salt, a few pounds of flour or meal, and a cant stock of clothing, with a few tools, comprised in many cases the sum total of their movable possessions. Their effects were made up in bundles, and two of them slung across the horse, one upon either side, and thus they came, following out the old Braddock road, or crossing the mountains by Indian trails or hunters' paths, scarce wide enough and clear enough of brush to allow them to pass along single file.

Arriving, the first thing to be done was to clear off a spot for a cabin, and then proceed to cut logs to erect it. The selection of the cabin site was always determined by a good spring of water. And, in order to build where they burst torth, the house or cabin was almost sure to be found at the head of a hollow, or on a low location.

The logs cut, a day was appointed for the "raising," and every one within six or seven, and even ten miles, would be present to "give a lift" at the cabin. The round logs. notched at the ends, were rapidly placed in position, the building raised a single story, the roof of clap-boards placed on and secured by weight poles, iron being too scarce and dear for the settler to think of using nails; the slab, or puncheon door, swung upon wooden hinges, a log left partly out to be filled with a few panes of glass placed lengthwise, or the space to be occupied by paper greased with hog's lard to let in the light. The puncheon floor was next put down, which consisted of slabs placed down, with a dressed side up, and secured by wooden pins driven in holes bored at each end. And likely to complete this building of a day, a few loop holes were left to afford security from Indian attacks.

After the cabin was raised, which was accomplished generally about the middle of the afternoon, all would gather in the open space before the cabin door, to engage in the pastimes and sports of that period—feats of dexterity and trials of physical strength. The remainder of the day, till

evening, would thus be passed away with foot-races, trials of skill with the rifle, throwing the shoulder stone, lifting a great rock, or engaging in friendly wrestles.

The call to supper would end these varied sports, and they would sit down to a feast of corn bread and an array of wild game that would tempt to-day the appetite of the daintiest epicure.

After supper they bade the new comer good-bye, and gave him an honestly-expressed invitation to visit them. And with the setting of the sun in the western horizon—in the shades of evening, with the twilight's gray falling on stream and hill, the settlers would scatter off toward their homes: but with their trusty rifles, inseparable companions in those days, they fearlessly trod the forest wilds at any hour of the night.

The newcomer would busy himself for several days after his cabin was raised, in building himself a commodious stone chimney extending nearly across one end of his building, and whose hearth was of ample dimensions to accommodate a back-log of such size as would require a horse to draw it into the cabin and deposit it in front of the capacious fire-place, whereon it was rolled by means of handspikes. With the completion of the chimney, the house was ready for occupancy by the family.

The settler cleared out a patch for corn, planted it, built his bear pens, and spent every spare moment in the forest hunting, seeing that meat was the main dependence as food for several years, until he could clear out his patch into a field large enough to provide him with a crop sufficient to supply his needs.

A harrow with wooden teeth, and a rude plow roughly fashioned were used for the cultivation of this field, and no thought given to any means for the preservation of its fertility. It was counted for so many crops; and, by the time exhausted, another would be cleared out to take its place—the primitive idea of rotation of crops.

When the corn was raised (for wheat was not thought of,)

it was necessary to prepare it for the table. There were no mills, and it was placed in the hominy block and pounded with a pestle, and when too soft for this, the ears were rubbed over a tin grater of a concave form nailed to a block or board, on which the meal fell. This was improved by the introduction of the hand mill, which consisted of two stones placed in a hoop provided with a spout for the discharge of the meal. A beam was attached to an upright piece fastened into the upper stone, and two persons could labor at the same time, in turning the mill.

Persons came from a distance to grind on them.

They tanned their hides with the brains of animals, employing the simplest methods possible, and had a trough sunk in the ground for tanning their leather, which was effected by the use of bark, ashes and tallow. This made a very coarse, but very substantial article for use.

Every man had to be his own blacksmith, carpenter and shoemaker.

Their manners, though not polished, were open and frank, even to roughness at times, when they considered themselves insulted or their rights invaded.

Jealous of their honor and proud of their word, he who impugned the one, or doubted the other, had to answer for his temerity at the point of blows.

A fight was the arbitrament of any trouble that could not easily be settled. No unfair advantage was suffered to be taken by either party, and the fight continued till one of the contestants being satisfied with the hammering he was receiving from his adversary, would cry out "enough," when his assailant would desist, and the matter ended. No aftertalk of knives, pistols and slungshots, or planning of a cowardly attack by the beaten party upon his opponent. To "receive the lie," without giving a blow in exchange was to be looked upon as a coward by every one.

They used no flattery, practiced no deceit, were hospitable, and feared no danger. They spoke of neighbor Jones, not

Mr. Jones; of Jones's clearing, not Mr. Jones's farm. A neighbor was any one within three or four miles.

The settlers, during this period, had nothing but the furs with which to procure iron and salt, and leaving home with a pack horse heavily laden they crossed the mountains by bridle-paths to the South Branch, to dispose of their furs. It took several days to perform the journey there and back. They encamped at night in the mountains with their packsaddles for pillows, and sank to sleep amid the howling of wolves around and the scream of the panther in the distance. On their return when approaching homes, they dreaded to look towards them lest a pile of ashes might greet their gaze, showing that the Indians had been there, murdered their families and burned their homes.

Entering the house, usually the first object that greeted your gaze, was the loom upon which the women wove the home-made clothing of that day, called linsey, a warm and lasting article made from flax and wool. Beside the loom stood the spinning wheel. The floor, white as sand and water could make it.

When the dinner hour arrived, proud was the housewife who could grace her board with a full set of pewter plates. The horn hanging upon the wall, called the husband in when the ample repast of johnny cake and wild meat of two or three kinds was ready.

Crossing the threshold, the settler gave you a cordial welcome, and standing before you with his tastefully fringed hunting shirt, deer skin breeches, substantial moccasins, and coon skin cap, tall and well proportioned in form, with a suntanned but honest and intelligent face, a firm step and fearless eye. All this was calculated to make a lasting impression upon you of the character of the first settlers of West Virginia.

And no wonder when the fortunes of war brought a dark and trying hour to the cause of American Independence, that General Washington, in anticipation of continued re

verses, declared that, if driven from the sea-coast, he would retreat to the Alleghanies, and there rally his shattered columns in defense of the liberties of his country. He well knew the character of the hardy, fearless race whose acquaintance he had formed in early life, and was well aware that lands, and even life itself, were not too precious gifts for them to give in the cause of their country's liberties.

We find mention of John and Samuel Robinett in 1783, near where Brandonville was afterwards laid out, and with them mention of Robert Forman, a quaker.

In 1783, surveys were made in Monongalia, and the land office was opened for the issue of patents, and then followed a busy time among the settlers patenting the lands they had been living on for years, and taking up adjoining tracts of land.

The years 1784 and 1785, were marked by the repetition of the transactions of 1783. Commencing in 1784 and continuing for several years, Francis and William Deakins took up numerous tracts of land, varying from 100 to 500 acres in extent, selecting what they thought to be "choice spots" all over the eastern part of the county. After taking up a good many of these tracts, they took up according to some of the old county surveyors who ran over these lines, large tracts of from 1000 to 2000 acres by lines of reference, that is, stating lines from a known point to other known points, and thus enclosing these tracts to be afterwards surveyed, and these lines by reference also were to be run and established. They took some lands, but not a large quantity, on the west side of Cheat, south of the Great Survey.

Claibourne and Maylon were now engaged in making surveys, and obtaining patents for the tracts of land within the Great Survey.

Amos Roberts and others in 1785, settled round Thos. Chips near Willey, and James Spurgin was now at Morris's Fort, having come out the preceding year.

The next year Patrick McGrew came from Cumberland

County, Pennsylvania, and settled near the then future site of Brandonville

Sometime after the close of the Revolutionary war, and not later than 1786, General Simon Kenton brought his father with him from the east, and traveling westward struck the head waters of Cheat, and dropping down its waters in a canoe they were the guests of the settlers on the Dunkard Bottom. Keeping on down Cheat they entered the Monongahela, and stopping at Fort Redstone, at that time the head of western navigation, his father died, and the great western adventurer continued alone his journey back to Kentucky.

Poes, the noted Indian fighters, were on the Dunkard Bottom once or twice on a visit and hunting trip of a few days.

About this time was the introduction of the Tub-mill. Its construction was as follows: the upper end of a perpendicular shaft was fitted in the bed-stone, and its lower end carried a wheel four or five feet in diameter; as the wheel was sunk in the stream the force of the current turned it and the wheel the shaft, and the shaft the bed-stone against the upper stone, and ground the grain.

The settlers were beginning to raise some wheat, but still corn was the main cereal raised for consumption, as many of the settlers doubted whether wheat ever could be raised as a profitable crop.

John Willits was near the site of Brandonville, in 1786.

In the summer of this year came Rev. John Stough from the East to the present vicinity of Aurora, in quest of a site for a settlement, and found east of Aurora, near the present line between West Virginia and Maryland, a log house occupied by William Ashby who had been there several years, while up on Cheat near the Tucker County line he found James Goffe who was occupying a farm settled on a few years back by a man by the name of Jordon.

He looked at different places, and made selection of the country just south of Aurora and including the site of Mount Carmel as a location suitable for the men who sent him out.

In 1787 Rev. John Stough returned to the vicinity of

Aurora, accompanied by Jacob Wagoner, Jacob Diedrick, auother man and his family. These four families settled at Mount Carmel, one half mile south of Aurora, and were the founders of the German Settlement. And the next year came the Ridenours, Stemples, Wotrings, Hecks and Hershes, to swell its numbers.

About this time Jacob Wetzel came one day to Jacob Wolfe's near Muddy Creek, on a visit to his sister Christina, Wolfe's wife, and playfully asking his sister if she wanted a present, on her answering affirmatively, he threw into her lap the scalp of an Indian chief, but scarcely dry. The long tuft of hair was interwoven with silk and silver beads.

The Indians on the Ohio in 1788 planned an expedition to kill William Morgan They started at the mouth of Fishing Creek on the Ohio, following up that creek, and crossing the dividing ridge to the head waters of Indian Creek, and down that creek to its mouth, crossing the Monongalia where Smithtown now stands, then up the valley of White Day Creek, and leaving the valley of that creek, took an eastward direction so as to fall on the head waters of Morgan's Run, and follow it down to the house of William Morgan.

The Indians had sworn vengeance on the name of Morgan, since David Morgan in 1779 had slain two Indians near Morgantown, and with others had skinned them and tanned their hides for shot-pouches and saddle-seats. This expedition was projected to kill William Morgan on account of their hatred to the Morgans, who were all great Indian fighters.

The Indian war party when it arrived upon the narrow divide between the head waters of Morgan's Run on the one side, and Green's Run on the other, in mistake fell down on the left of Green's Run, and soon came in hearing of Daniel Lewis who was spliting rails. Killing him, they obtained Green's gun which Lewis had brought out with him.

They then pushed forward and soon came to Green's house, on the run near Cheat River, and as they approached, a little daughter of John Green's came out of the house.

One of the Indians shot at her, the ball passing through her hand. She fell with her wounded hand on her head, and had presence of mind to lie still. The Indians then rushed into the house and killed John Greene, who was unarmed, taking his wife and two grown-up daughters prisoners. On coming out of the house, one of the savages went to the little girl, whose head was now all covered with blood from the wound in her hand. Thinking her dead, they left her undisturbed, and beat a rapid retreat, without burning the house.

The little girl, after their departure, cautiously rose and made her way down to the river, where her cries for assistance brought a man across in a canoe from Thomas Butler's, at Butler's Fort. The alarm was now given, but before a force could be collected, the savages were too far away for a successful pursuit.

According to a tradition, there were seven of these Indians, six Mingo warriors led by a Shawnee, who was partly acquainted with the country.

The killing of John Green was the last murder the Indians ever committed in Preston County. No war party ever crossed its borders again. One fact is very remarkable in regard to all murders committed on the territory of Preston County; they all took place on or near the Great War path.

Indian invasions in 1789, were but little apprehended, and the settlements were fast filling up with immigrants from the South Branch, the Valley of Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania.

The hardships and privations of frontier life, though greatly lessened, were yet a great burden upon the settlers.

Colonel John Fairfax, formerly Superintendent of the Mount Vernon estate of General Washington, now came out. He was on his way to the West, upon its recommendation by General Washington, as a country that would one day be very valuable.

Colonel Fairfax intended to visit Kentucky, in prospect of

a location; but upon arriving in Monongalia, reports of increasing trouble with the Indians, induced him to change his mind, and purchase from Philip Doddridge, a large tract of land situated in the Monongalia Glades, as the country now surrounding Reedsville and Masontown was then called.

On September 21, 1789, at a session of the Superior Court held at Monongalia Court-house, we find that Thomas Wilson, who afterward resided in the Monongalia Glades, was an attorney before said court. Thomas Butler and Thomas Chips served on the grand jury.

In the spring of 1790, James Brown (father of the Hon. William G. Brown) came to the neighborhood wherein Kingwood stands. He left Ireland in 1789, where his opinions, openly expressed in favor of America during the Revolutionary War, rendered him unpopular with the supporters of the crown.

James Cobun now came from Morgantown to the Monongalia Glades; Colonel Fairfax returned this year from Prince William County, accompanied by the Byrnes; and we find account of William Watson, Robert McMillen, Daniel Fortney; Jacob Wolfe again, who lived in what is now Pleasant District, and who married Christina, sister of Lewis Wetzel; and of numbers of old and worthy settlers locating in the county, but too numerous for farther individual mention in this chapter.

The German settlement made in 1787, and called Salem by its founders, had increased rapidly in numbers, and on the Fourth of July, 1793, Leonard Deakins and a man by the name of Hogmire laid out Mount Carmel. A public square was laid off and marked by planting four small upright stones bearing as inscriptions the name of the place, the year and day that it was laid out, and the first year of Washington's second administration. In this public square was marked a site for a court-house. This is the first trace we have of any action of the settlers anywhere in the present limits of Pres-

ton, looking toward the formation of a new county out of the northeastern part of Monongalia. The northeast stone marking this public square, is still standing.

From this year until 1795, the settlements rapidly increased in numbers, and the pioneer clearings of 1785 were slowly widening out into farms of considerable size.

The settlements no longer had any fear of Indians, as Wayne's great victory the preceding year had driven them so far back from the Ohio, that their war parties could never again be able to invade the Virginia frontier. With the close of this year, the Red Warriors left, and left forever, their cherished hunting-grounds along the Monongahela and upon the Cheat River hills.

In 1795, "The Whiskey Insurrection" closed, but none of the settlers of Preston were engaged in it.

Court Records Burned.—About this time the Monongalia court records were destroyed by fire, and all the county records from 1776 to 1796 were burnt—an irreparable loss felt by the whole county. In those records destroyed were many interesting facts, accurately recorded, some of which to-day are totally lost, while others can be but partially secured for the pages of this book.

The court recommended Jonathan Brandon, in 1796, in place of Daniel McCollum, who had resigned, as Captain of one of the militia companies. Brandon lived where Brandonville now stands, while McCollum lived on Big Sandy, about three miles above Brandon. Alexander Brandon was one of the Commissioners of the Revenue in this year.

From 1796 to 1799, nothing of any interest took place, beyond the steady increase of immigration.

In 1799, we find from records that the Superior Court was in session at Monongalia Court-house, and that John Willits was on the grand jury. On the 15th day of the session, the grand jury presented a petition praying that the present monthly courts be abolished, and that the business transacted by them be transferred to the quarterly courts and the magistrates. Alexander Brandon was fined eight dollars for not

appearing in answer to his summons as a juror. Thomas Butler and John Fairfax, Justices, were in attendance upon all these monthly courts

Colonel John Fairfax was a very prominent man on account of his former position as Superintendent of the Mount Vernon estate, and his acquaintance with many of the leading men of Virginia. Persons from a distance, coming into the country, sought him to obtain information regarding the country and its future prospects.

The close of this year brings us down to the opening of the Nineteenth Century.

From 1781 to 1800 was a period of great improvement upon that of 1776 to 1781. The single-story round-log cabin of the frontier, standing in a deadened clearing, had been succeeded by the respectable two-story hewn-log house, surrounded by cultivated fields and waving grain. The bridle-path and pack horse road had been transformed into the more commodious emigrant road. The hand-mill had given place to the tub-mill; while instead of having to go to Morgantown for the transaction of the simplest legal business, the people had competent magistrates in every neighborhood.

1776 to 1781 was a war period full of increased dangers, succeeding the pioneer period from 1769 to 1776. On the east, along the rocky walls of Laurel Hill Ridge, reverberated the thunders of the Revolutionary struggle; and on the west, along the crest-line of Chestnut Ridge, echoed the war-whoop of the cruel and murderous Indian. Only two feeble stockades—Morris's Fort and Butler's Fort—interposed to stay threatened invasions by the Red Warriors of the forest.

The succeeding period from 1781 to 1800 began with the cessation of hostilities between the Colonies and England, and ended with freedom from all Indian hostilities.

The settlers on the territory of Preston, now began to complain of the distance they were compelled to go in order to attend court, to vote, and to muster; and to discuss the necessity and the probability of a division of the county.

They argued that its settled territory was already too large for one county, and that the northeastern part was of sufficient size, and soon would contain the requisite population, to justify its erection into a new county.

We find nothing of any interest to record between 1800 and 1805, beyond the fact that a few wagons were brought into the county and used instead of sleds and ox-carts, and the widening and bettering of the few roads then existing. The Winchester and Clarksburg road was the main thoroughfare. Over it the furs now obtained in diminished quantities, the venison and bear meat, and the linen fabrics manufactured in large quantities, were still carried East on packhorses, to be bartered for salt and iron.

The Winchester and Clarksburg road, as called, but which was the Monongalia State road, entering Preston near Cranberry, came by the Dunkard Bottom and through where Kingwood stands, passing in the vicinity of Gladesville, and on to the county line. A branch, called the Morgantown and Winchester road, left about three miles from the site of Kingwood, and ran through the Monongalia Glades by Reedsville to Morgantown. Several taverns were on this road, and a noted camping-place was on the site of Kingwood, where the Court-house now stands.

Heavy rough wagons over this road, none too smooth, carried West the necessaries of life, which found a ready market at high prices, a bushel of salt being worth four dollars, and a pound of iron twelve cents. Luxuries commanded extravagant figures: a pound of coffee sold for a dollar, and a yard of calico for half that amount.

During this time we find Colonel John Fairfax representing Monongalia in the House of Delegates. In 1805 he was Sheriff of Monongalia County.

In June, 1806, crowds assembled in Morgantown from all parts of the county, the part now constituting Preston being duly represented, to witness the execution of a man named Clemmens, who had murdered his wife and children.

From 1805 to 1807, nothing of much importance occurred.

Jackson's iron-works, on Cheat River, just beyond the present Preston County line, gave employment to a large number of men from all parts of Monongalia. The iron was carried on flat-boats to New Orleans, where it found market.

Kingwood Founded.—Conrad Sheets, Jacob Funk, and a man by the name of Steele, in 1807, built houses upon the site of Kingwood, and named the place Kingwood, from the grove of large and stately trees which stood round an emigrant camping-place, where the Court-house now stands. This body of timber was known by the emigrants as the "King-wood," or grove of "King-trees."

On the 23d of January, 1811, the General Assembly established Kingwood as a town of Monongalia. It was the first town established by the General Assembly on the territory of Preston.

John Fairfax and James McGrew, in 1811, were Colonels in the militia.

The General Assembly, on the 27th of January, 1812, passed an act providing for the opening of a wagon road from the Monongalia Glades to the mouth of Buffalo, and thence to the confluence of Fishing Creek with the Ohio, where the town of New Martinsville now stands. This road was intended to meet a road opening from Zanesville to the Ohio River opposite the site of New Martinsville. A portion of the revenues of Monongalia, for the year 1812, was appropriated to the opening of this road. And it was further enacted, that John Fairfax, of the County of Monongalia, should be appointed one of three Commissioners, authorized and empowered to make such repairs and alterations as they might deem proper, of the State road leading from the Monongalia State road to the mouth of the Little Kanawha River. That part of this road in the territory of Preston County, was called the Winchester and Clarksburg road. One of the sections designated to receive these repairs, extended from Gandy's, near the site of Gladesville, to the

stream then called Tyger Valley River, but now known as Tygart's Valley River.

In 1812, war was declared by the United States against England. In that war many of the inhabitants of the territory of Preston were soldiers in the armies of the Republic—doing duty upon the shores of the Great Lakes, and serving on the sea-board at Norfolk. Colonels Fairfax and McGrew were in charge of the militia of the county; but before their turn came to take the field in person, the war closed.

On the 29th of January, 1813, the General Assembly made an additional appropriation for opening the road from the Monongalia Glades to the mouth of Buffalo Creek, and thence to the Ohio River, as being the nearest and best route from the northern part of the State to the State of Ohio and adjoining territories. This road was projected with the idea of contributing to an increase of population in the country through which it passed, to connect the interests of the eastern and western parts of Virginia, and to secure commercial intercourse between the State of Ohio, with her adjoining territories, and the eastern markets of Virginia. The citizens of Monongalia were highly interested in the road, as, after its completion, they would be enabled to obtain their salt by a land carriage of only fifty miles from the Ohio River; while, as it was, they were compelled to go clear to Winchester, on a rough road, over the mountain, or bring it from the point where the projected wagon road would strike the river, up to Pittsburgh, and then up the Monongahela to Morgantown a distance of two hundred and sixty miles from the point where the contemplated road would strike the river. John S. Barnes and William Willey, citizens of Monongalia, were appointed as two of the six commissioners for superintending and opening this wagon road. Monongalia Glades, from which the above road was to start, embraced nearly all of the present District of Valley.

In 1815, the Rev. George Hagans, a native of the State of Vermont, came, on account of his health, from Indiana, to the east side of Cheat, on the territory of Preston; and, in 1818, with his three sons, (Zer, Elisha M., and Harrison,) he removed to the site of the present town of Brandonville, where then only the house of Colonel Brandon stood. Commencing with this year, under their influence, the town built up to its present size.

Greenville Furnace.—As well as we can ascertain, about this year, Walter Carlile, commonly called Wat Carlile, commenced to build a furnace called Greenville, on Laurel Run, east of Cheat River and about five miles from the Mason and Dixon line. A man of no education, but of good business qualifications, without capital, but endowed with powers of wonderful perseverance, he carried his enterprise to completion under the most trying vicissitudes of fortune.

From 1813 to 1818, slow but perceptible progress was made in all parts of the territory of Preston County. county was the theme of discussion, and efforts were made looking toward the accomplishment of that desirable result. The long journeys to be performed in reaching Morgantown for the purpose of attending courts, elections and militia musters, and other attendant inconveniences, were considered a great burden by the inhabitants. These were the reasons presented and urged in favor of a division of Monongalia, and the erection of its north-eastern portion into a new county. The rest of the citizens of the county did not object, and the representatives of Monongalia in the General Assembly, deeming that such a separation would be for the best interests of their constituents, consented to the measure, and gave their support to the bill introduced for the division of the County of Monongalia.

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CHAPTER VIII.

COUNTY OF PRESTON—VIRGINIA.

INCHOATIVE ENTERPRISES—TURNPIKES: NORTHWESTERN—HANGING OF THE NEGRO—RAILROADS: BALTIMORE & OHIO—JUNE FROST—SECESSION: RICHMOND CONVENTION; UNWRITTEN HISTORY; IDEA OF A NEW STATE; ESCAPE OF DELEGATES WM. G. BROWN AND JAMES C. M'GREW; UNION MEETINGS—THE REBELLION: BAILEY BROWN, THE FIRST MAN KILLED IN THE WAR—WHEELING CONVENTIONS.—1818 to 1863.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia met at the Capitol, in the city of Richmond, on Monday, the first day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, and of the Commonwealth the forty-second. Its sessions were to possess a more than ordinary interest for the inhabitants of the territory of Preston. For, before it would come up their petition for separation from Monongalia—their plea for admission into the sisterhood of counties.

Day after day passed, December and the old year were gone, January and the new year had come, and yet had not come up for their consideration the placing of another name on the roll-call of the counties.

On the 19th day of January, 1818, the General Assembly, after having given the subject due consideration, gratified the anxious wishes of its petitioners, and declared the division of Monongalia County, and the erection of a new county out of the northwestern part of it, in the following language:

"BE it enacted by the General Assembly, That all that part of the county of Monongalia contained within the following bounds, to wit: begining at the Pennsylvania line, near Fickle's, including the same, thence a straight line to where Cheat River breaks through the Laurel Hill, so as to include all the inhabitants of the Monongalia Glades tlement, including Samuel Price's and Henry Carother's, from thence, including Gandv's to the Clarksburg road on the Laurel Hill where it descends: from thence a direct line to the junction of the Big and the Little Sandy Creek, where the Randolph County line is; from thence, with Randolph County, to the Maryland line; from thence to the Pennsylvania line, and with the Pennsylvania line to the beginning, shall form a distinct and new county, and be called and known by the name of Preston County." Acts of Assembly, 1817-18, Chapter xxxii, page 32.

And thus was created Preston, the thirty-fifth county of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Continuing on in the good practice of honoring and preserving the memories of her noble and deserving sons, Virginia turned to one of her honored Revolutionary heroes, General James C. Preston, then occupying her Gubernatorial chair, and called the new county Preston.

The first court of quarterly sessions was appointed to meet on the first Monday in March, 1818; but did not convene until some time later. John Fairfax, as the oldest Justice by Commission, acted as president of the court. The justices composing the court, so far as can be ascertained, were Frederick Hersh, Hugh Evans, Nathaniel Metheny, Joseph Matthews, Nathan Ashby, William Sigler, Benjamin Shaw, and John Scott.

These magistrates received no compensation for their services. They were commissioned by the Governor, upon recommendation of the court of quarterly sessions, commonly called the county court, and transacted all business for the public free of charge, receiving no salary or compensation; but every two years the county court, by a

time-honored custom, would recommend the oldest member of their body by commission to the Governor, as a person fit to be Sheriff, and he would be appointed by the Governor as sheriff of the county, and at the end of his term the county court would recommend that member of its body whose commission dated farthest back, and so on, giving each magistrate a chance of obtaining a term of the sheriffalty, if he lived long enough, as the magistrates were appointed by the Governor for life, or during good behavior.

This court met at the house of William Price in the town of Kingwood, by requirement of act of Assembly, and provided for the purchase of the store-room of John Roberts, to be used as a Court-house until further provisions could be made for building.

Colonel John Fairfax, by seniority of commission, received the appointment of Sheriff. Not having time from his own business affairs to discharge the duties of the office, he sold the appointment to Joseph D. Suit, who, as deputy, served as Sheriff during Fairfax's term.

The second county court was held in Roberts's store room, on the first Monday in April, 1818.

Nathan Ashby, one of the justices, was authorized, by act of Assembly, to erect a toll-bridge across Snowy Glade Creek, on the State road, 12 feet wide and 350 feet long, and to be 4 feet above the swamp.

A little east of the centre of the town of Kingwood, and more than a square and a half from the present Court-house, stood the first Court-house in the county of Preston. It had been used as a store-room by a man named John Roberts; and, in later years, was erected on its site the house now occupied by Oliver Dunn, as a dwelling. It was a one story frame, perhaps twenty-six feet long, and about twenty-five feet wide, painted with mineral clay, from the well known "paint-bank," in Valley District. From its color, it was called the "Old Red Court-house." A partition was removed, and a back room made for a jury-box, just large enough to hold twelve men; and for an office the clerk had a space for all

his books and documents in the court-room. The bench and bar, improvised in the same primitive manner as the jury room and the clerk's office, were found on the right hand side of the building, entering from the street.

Back of it was raised a structure of hewed logs for the jail, a rather insecure home for the sons of crime. In front of it stood that intimidating landmark of primitive law, the whipping post. The post has decayed in its place, is seen no more, and no longer serves as an index to point the erring wretch to things above and higher than his low and groveling plane of life; but, in its stead, the spire and dome of church and school appear, indexing the upward tendencies and onward progress of the age.

On the first Monday after the fourth Monday in April the circuit court of the Eleventh Circuit held its first session for the new county, in the old red Court-house. The Hon. Daniel Smith, of Harrisonburg, was judge, and appointed James McGee prosecutor, and Eugene M. Wilson clerk of the court. The attorneys before the court were the Hon. Thomas Wilson, James McGee and William G. Payne, all of Morgantown.

The population of the county was now about 3000.

The taxes laid this year, and which the citizens of the State were required to pay, were as follows: on lands, for every hundred dollars' value, 75 cents; for all houses and lots in towns, three dollars for every hundred dollars' yearly rent or value thereof; for every slave above the age of twelve years, 70 cents; for horses, 18 cents each; for every ordinary license, or license to keep a house of private entertainment, seven dollars on every hundred dollars' yearly rent or value thereof: *Provided*, That for no such license less than eighteen dollars shall be paid. *And provided* also, That no tax shall be levied on a house of private entertainment, unless the same be situated within a town, borough or city, or within 800 yards, actual distance, from some public road or highway; for every two-wheeled riding carriage, not exceeding

one hundred dollars' value, 50 cents; for every stage-wagon, not exceeding two hundred dollars in value, two dollars and fifty cents. Every license to sell merchandise of foreign growth or manufacture, by wholesale and retail, was taxed sixty dollars; for retail only, twenty dollars; but every farmer or planter was allowed to sell salt, tea, molasses, sugar, coffee, spices, iron or steel, to his neighbors, when he had purchased such articles as a return load for his produce or other property taken to market. A license to hawk or peddle dry goods cost forty dollars; to trade in tin or pewter, twenty dollars; and the exhibitor of any show paid fifteen dollars license for showing in any city, borough or corporation. The common "carry-alls" or "Jersey wagons" were taxed two dollars and fifty cents, being classed with the stage-wagons. Lists of all the above taxable persons and property were made out by the commissioners of the revenne.

The citizens of Preston now felt themselves relieved of the necessity of long journeys from home to reach the county seat.

As yet game was abundant in all parts of the county. The panther, however, was retreating before the advance of civilization, while the wolf and the bear still remained in considerable numbers upon the outskirts of the settlements. The buffalo, present in small numbers in the summer seasons when the first settlers came, entirely disappeared in a few years afterwards. Deer were still present in great numbers and easily killed. And, entering almost any house a little distance from the few villages springing up in the county, deer-horns could be seen, and upon some walls hung "the branching honors of the monarch of the waste."

Pack-horses were still used to carry large quantities of linen to market, and the primitive pack-saddle was yet no rarity in the county. Described by one now living, who well recollects seeing it in his boyhood days, it was often made as follows: A large forked limb was obtained, and was cut off just below the fork, and then each fork was cut off about six

inches from the crotch and trimmed down to the required dimensions to accommodate the loads to be carried upon it; then a flat, smooth board was nailed on the bottom, and it was placed on the horse's back, with a sheep-skin pad under it, and the load laid across it; or, divided into two bundles, swung on each side by a rope or band.

Habits of thrift, frugality and economy, learned from a generation past, marked the inhabitants of the new county. Now were the beginnings of mercantile enterprise seen in a small store or two in each little village, contemporary with the introduction of frame and stone buildings.

The raising of cattle began to be a considerable business, and drovers from the South Branch visited the county for the purpose of buying up droves for the eastern market. The cattle business brought money from a distance into the county, and stimulated the people to renewed efforts in building up and improving their county.

The census of 1820 showed that there were 3422 people living within the boundaries of the new county.

The tub-mill was now superseded by the water mill, equipped with a set of country stones, but doing fair work, and grinding some wheat along with the corn and buckwheat. The few villages were increasing in size, and in the amount of business transacted in them, and while farms were being opened in all parts of the county, yet considerable stretches of its territory were in unbroken forest, full of game, and every stream was filled with fish from the delicious trout down to the unsightly cat-fish.

And while the material interests of the new county were brightening and improving, the mental and moral were also advancing. Log school-houses and churches existed at every village, and steps were being taken, at some points, to supply their places with frame buildings.

A stone Court-house and jail were erected, to take the place of the wooden and log structures first used. Sometime, however, before the stone jail was fit for the reception of prisoners, three persons were confined in the old log jail:

a negro runaway slave, and two white men, one for stealing, and the other for debt. One night these prisoners escaped: and, upon their departure, fired the jail. The flames from the building, although at the midnight hour, were almost instantly discovered, and a large crowd immediately gathered. The first impulse of the people was to relieve the prisoners confined in the building; when, to their surprise, they found that they had relieved themselves in advance of the fire they had kindled. Pursuit was made, and the escaped prisoners were overtaken, arrested and brought back; and, for want of a jail to confine them in, they made use of the old red Court-house for that purpose. James Carroll and Charles Hoeton were placed as guards over them, to prevent their burning the old Court-house.

In a few days, the white man confined for debt was discharged; while his comrade was tied up to the whipping-post, and given the benefit of so many lashes, well laid on, for stealing the leather. The runaway negro now alone remained as a prisoner. To make him secure, a chain was fastened from one leg to the other. A few days after this chain had been put on him, he complained of its hurting him, and wrapped rags round the chain in presence of the guard. One night after this, he went into the old jury-room; and staying in for some time, the guards went to see what his long continued absence meant. Upon entering the jury-room, they picked up a piece of a broken grate bar with which he had broken the chain some time that day, and concealing his work with rags, had waited until night to effect his escape. Entering the jury-room, he had unloosed the rags holding the chain together, and climbing up to a high window, sprang out and left. Pursuit was made, but nothing was seen or heard of him.

Immigrant teams daily passed through the county, on their way to Ohio, which, in those days, was called the "West." Greenville furnace was in blast, salt-making was beginning to attract attention, and the county in its slow and gradual improvement, was offering increased advantages every day to the better class of immigrants.

The General Assembly, on the 11th of January, 1826, extended the limits of the town of Kingwood to embrace what is known as the Sigler addition.

The citizens of Preston, after having organized their county. felt their next great need to be better roads, to facilitate travel from point to point in the county, and to give them a better outlet to market for the products of the soil, and those things "which would walk away," meaning cattle, horses and Their first great need, the shortening of distance to the county seat, had been attained in the erection of their county. Their next and present great need was turnpike roads to connect them with the markets of the East. And until these roads were made, they felt that their county would never enter upon that career of prosperity it was destined to enjoy on account of its location, soil and mineral These turnpike roads derived their name from toll gates, or turnpikes, placed upon them for the collection of toll from passengers and travelers, which was used to make and repair them.

The town of Brandonville, in the northern part of the county, on lands of Jonathan Brandon, was established by act of the General Assembly on the 17th day of January, 1827. Jonathan Brandon, Harrison Hagans, Samuel Rodaheaver, James McGrew, and William Conner were appointed trustees. A separate poll for elections was established to be hereafter kept at the house of Harrison Hagans, in the said town of Brandonville. Preston now had two voting places, Kingwood and Brandonville; and two post-offices, Kingwood and German Settlement—the latter kept near the present site of Aurora. Kingwood, according to the Post-office Guide of 1822, was 185 miles from Washington City, and 295 from Richmond; and German Settlement, 170 miles from Washington City, and 275 from Richmond.

A third election poll was established by the General Assembly, on January 17th, 1827, at the house of David Stem-

ple, in the Germany Settlement, on the east side of Cheat River.

The subject of turnpikes was agitated in Preston and adjoining counties, and as a result of this agitation, the General Assembly, on the 27th of February, 1827, passed an act to incorporate the Northwestern Road Company, to build a road from Winchester to some proper place on the Ohio River, between the mouths of Muskingum and Little Kanawha Rivers. Books for receiving subscriptions were to be opened at Winchester, Romney, Moorfield, Beverly, Kingwood, Pruntytown, Clarksburg and Parkersburg. At Kingwood the books were to be opened for subscriptions under the direction of William Price, Charles Byrne and Thomas Brown, or any two of them. The amount of capital stock for the whole road was to be 75,000 dollars, in shares of twenty dollars each. When 15,000 dollars of said stock was taken, the subscribers were to meet at Kingwood and organize the Company. The citizens of Preston anxiously desired this great road to be opened through their county. The increase of population and wealth which it would bring, and the building up of enterprises just began which it would insure; the out-let for products of the soil which it would afford, and the general and rapid improvement of the whole county which must ensue from its early establishment, made it an improvement greatly to be desired indeed.

On the 8th of March, the General Assembly passed an act confirming an act of the General Assembly of Maryland, in corporating the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. Commissioners were appointed to open books for receiving subscriptions for this railroad, then a rival, and afterwards to become the successor, of the Northwestern Turnpike, as a great connecting highway between the East and the West.

The Northwestern Turnpike was the topic of general interest in Preston, while the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, receiving some attention, was yet considered as of lesser importance.

The act for the construction of the Northwestern road, and

its location through the southern part of Preston County, drew attention to that portion of the county then but little improved, and through which passed a rough and broken road only, from Maryland, by way of Mount Carmel, across Cheat, over the mountain, and south of where Evansville now stands, and leaving the county near the site of Ice's Mill on Little Sandy. A few settlers lived along this road, and in its immediate vicinity, while the surrounding country was but little else than an unbroken forest—an occasional cabin here and there appearing.

The northern part of the county had an outlet for its productions, and a market for the sale of horses, sheep, cattle and hogs, at Somerfield and various other points on the National Road, passing within three miles of the northeastern part of the county. Before this their market was at Winchester, by way of Selbysport and Westernport. The central part of the county used the Monongalia State road to Winchester, for market purposes, while a portion of the western, central and northern parts of the county still continued to use the Monongahela, as a way to Pittsburgh, which was the head of western navigation, to inter-change their products—especially those in the shape of whiskey and iron, for many needed articles brought by steamboats from New Orleans.

The few copper stills in the county, added the small amount of their production to the large quantities of the Old Monongahela rye whiskey, conveyed by boat from Brownsville and Pittsburgh to New Orleans, and thence sent all over the world. This pure old Monongahela copper distilled rye whiskey was of world wide renown, and often graced the board of prince and potentate of the Old World. It took its name from being principally distilled in the Monongahela Valley.

Drovers came in now from Pennsylvania and Maryland, and competed with the drovers from the South Branch in the purchase of cattle, which they drove to market over the National Road, striking it at Somerfield.

Morgantown and Clarksburg were points to which the in-

habitants of the western and southern parts of the county repaired for trading and buying: Morgantown receiving. however, the principal amount of this traffic.

Greenville Furnace continued to make considerable quantities of iron, which was hauled to Cheat River, and boated to Pittsburg; while a man by the name of Davis, not later than this year, commenced the erection of a forge at the Great Falls on Big Sandy. He failed from some cause—want of capital or other difficulties; and to-day a few traces remain to mark the spot where he commenced to erect his forge. The place is known by the name of Davis's Folly. This forge was commenced after Greenville furnace was built, but in what year, can not be ascertained, though it was some time between 1818 and 1828.

Scott and Daugherty, some time between 1825 and 1828, commenced to build a furnace at the Decker's Creek Falls. They erected a store, built a saw-mill, partly constructed a dam, and laid the foundation for their furnace and prospected for ore banks; but, from lack of means, scarcity of ore, or some other cause unknown, they did not carry their preject forward to completion, but left. Considerable traces still remain to point out the nature and size of the various buildings intended to be built in connection with the furnace. and which were but barely begun when the enterprise was abandoned, and the owners left. James Moffit was appointed general manager, and served in that capacity the short time the undertaking was prosecuted. This furnace, like Greenville, was located at the base of Chestnut Ridge, on the east side. It would have depended, as Greenville did, upon Cheat River for the transportation of its product to market.

William Sigler, William Johnson, William Price, Charles Byrne and Thomas Brown, the commissioners appointed in February to open books and receive subscriptions for the Northwestern Turnpike, at Kingwood, performed that duty, and received several subscriptions. The road was expected to pass through Kingwood. There is no record of any meet-

ing in Kingwood to organize the company—a proceeding which, in all likelihood, took place elsewhere.

A third election poll was established on the 25th of January, 1823, at the residence of Isaac Criss, lying south of the dividing ridge, between the waters of Three Fork and Racoon creeks.

John Hoy and Francis Deakins laid off lots on their lands at Mount Carmel. These lots were purchased, and improved; and the owners, now desirous of having their town established by law, petitioned the General Assembly upon the subject, and on the 28th of January, 1828, the town of Mount Carmel was established, its limits to include not over 20 acres of land. Jacob Shaffer, John A. Wotring, Henry Grimes, Jacob Startzman, and Frederick Hersh were appointed trustees. These trustees were empowered to make such by-laws and ordinances as to them should seem best for the good government of the town—the first laid out, and the fourth established by law within the county.

We find that the Assembly, on the 20th day of February, passed an act to amend an act entitled "An Act authorizing a sum of money to be raised by lottery for building a tollbridge over Cheat River." Thomas P. Ray. Thomas M'Gee. William G. Brown, William Sigler, and Charles Byrne, or any three of them, were appointed commissioners to raise by lottery or lotteries, any sum or sums of money, to be by them applied to the purposes of building the said bridge, not ex ceeding in the whole amount so to be raised, the sum of ten thousand dollars. They were to build this bridge on a site fixed by order of the county court of Preston. The bridge was to be a free bridge, unless the Assembly should otherwise direct by law. The commissioners, otherwise, were to be governed by the provisions of the act of January 7, 1896, passed for the erection of a bridge over Cheat River. The commissioners appointed proceeded to the discharge of their duties.

The inhabitants of the extreme northeastern part of Randolph (then an adjoining county and including the territory

of Tucker), petitioned the General Assembly to add their part of the County of Randolph to the County of Preston. Their reasons for this annexation were that they had to travel 50 miles to their court-house, and 18 miles to their separate election, while they resided within 20 miles of Preston Courthouse, and only three miles from a separate election in the County of Preston. The General Assembly, on the 29th of February, 1828, passed an act adding a part of the County of Randolph to Preston, and described that part of Randolph annexed in the following language: "That so much of the County of Randolph as lies within the boundary lines, to wit: begin at Lord Fairfax's stone, thence in a straight line to Grind-stone Spring on the Horse-shoe road; thence to Cheat River, where the line dividing Randolph and Preston counties crosses the same near James Goff's, shall be annexed to. and henceforth a part of the County of Preston."

The county court of Preston was to direct the surveyor of the county, at whatever time they saw fit, to run and mark the lines established by this act; and the county court of Randolph might at the same time, appoint their county surveyor to attend the surveyor of Preston in running and marking these lines. The lines were run, and the included territory became part of Preston County, in accordance with the act of Assembly.

In 1828, it was the wish of the people of Virginia that a convention be called to amend the State Constitution.

The bridge across Cheat, provided for by act of Assembly in 1828, was completed by the commissioners without resorting to lotteries to raise the money. William G. Brown gave one hundred dollars, Elisha M. Hagans two hundred dollars, and others smaller sums, while the county court made an appropriation. This, with the subscriptions received, was sufficient to build it. The site was selected on Cheat, about three and a half miles below Kingwood, and where, afterwards, Albrightsville was built up. It was a suspension bridge, and was sometimes called the "Wire Bridge."

With the opening of the year 1829, on the 1st day of Jan-

uary, the General Assembly changed the voting poll from David Stemple's to the residence of John A. Wotring in the town of Mount Carmel, or at such other house in said town as may be from time to time designated by the commissioners appointed to superintend the poll.

An act was passed on the 5th of January to open and improve a road from the State of Maryland, by Kingwood, to the Ohio River. John Fairfax, William Elliott and Samuel Byrne were members of the commission appointed to carry out the act, and to raise the money by lottery.

The wish of the people, the preceding year, for a convention to amend the State Constitution was a subject considered in the General Assembly; and, intent on carrying out this wish, an act was passed on the 10th day of February, 1829, to organize such a convention. In the month of May, according to the provisions of this act, the people of every county met at their regular voting places, and voted for four persons as members of this convention. The persons elected as members of this convention, met on the first Monday in October, at the Capitol in the city of Richmond, and organized in pursuance of the provisions of the act of February. This convention met to amend the State Constitution that was framed prior to the Declaration of Independence. members comprised the ablest talent of the State. grievance, which mainly led to its call, was inequality of representation in the State legislature.

This convention concluded its labors on the 14th day of January, 1830, and passed an amended Constitution or Form of Government for Virginia. In April it was ratified by a majority of the people, and by proclamation of the Governor went into immediate operation. By the provisions of the New Constitution, Preston was entitled to elect one member only to the House of Delegates, instead of two as before; and the people of the county, in voting for the adoption of this constitution, one of whose articles reduced their representation in the House of Delegates, must surely have had

the interests of the State more at heart than the local interests of the county.

Great efforts were made in every part of Virginia, to organize companies to open turnpike roads. Many companies failed to secure subscriptions sufficient to construct their roads, after securing their grants from the General Assembly, and were nothing but paper roads; while some companies were authorized to raise their capital by lotteries, and in many cases failed. Preston, as well as other counties, had some of these paper turnpikes.

A project was agitated for a road from the Pennsylvania line, near Smithfield (now Somerfield), by the way of Brandonville and Morgantown, to the Ohio River. An act of the General Assembly was passed on the 27th of January, 1830, incorporating a company to construct this road. amount of capital was to be 50,000 dollars, in shares of 25 dollars each, and books for subscriptions were to be opened at Brandonville by Harrison Hagans, Jesse Willets, William Brandon, Thomas McCollum and John Gribble, or any three of them. And when they had received subscriptions for a sufficient number of shares, the subscribers were to form a company to be known as the "Morgantown and Fishing" Creek Turnpike Company." This pike was completed, and became, a few years afterward, quite a thoroughfare for travel. Meanwhile many of its cotemporaries failed to ever pass the paper stage of their existence.

Elections were held under the New Constitution, and the General Assembly met in December at the Capitol in the city of Richmond, under its requirements.

By the census taken in 1830, Preston had 5092 inhabitants, an increase of nearly a thousand in ten years.

We come now to glance retrospectively over the events occurring from 1818 to 1831. We find it was to have been a period of inchoative enterprises—the beginning of progress—the commencements of varied industries—the embryotic elements of the present material, mental and moral advancement of the county.

Roads naturally received a large amount of attention, and the prevailing idea was of roads such as turnpikes, to be made by companies, and the cost of construction and repairs to come from the tolls levied by the company upon travelers and passengers over the road.

Buildings received their proper share of attention, and many neat frame, and commodious stone, and several brick houses were to be seen throughout the county.

Wagons now came into general use, and sleds and ox carts were but little seen upon the public highways.

The raising of cattle became a leading business, and drovers came into the county from many different points to gather up droves for the eastern markets.

Wheat was raised in many places and the home mills, considerably improved, began to do fair work in the production of flour and meal. There was talk of coal existing in the county, and the idea was held that it would yet take the place of wood as fuel.

Farms received more attention than heretofore, and some thought was given as to how the land might best be kept up, but no experiments were yet made in that direction.

The linsey hunting-shirt was giving away slowly to cloth of eastern manufacture; and the stores were assuming respectability in size, containing a variety of articles for sale, though yet at high prices.

Schools were open all over the county, and imparted a plain, practical business education to the pupils. The branches taught were reading, writing and arithmetic. Grammar and geography did not yet receive much attention.

Churches, like schools, were in every community, and Sunday-schools had been introduced in connection with some of them.

An iron pathway for travel was given some attention, but

horses were the motive power, and steam was not yet thought of for that purpose.

We come now to trace the two great enterprises projected in 1827 by the General Assembly: the great turnpike from Winchester to the Ohio, and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad extending from the Maryland line to the Ohio. Each was to pass through Preston. The railroad had not yet reached as far westward as Cumberland, and was attracting but little attention. The great turnpike, projected by the way of Kingwood, was examined by engineers, who claimed that the mountain was too steep to cross to Kingwood, and that its location must be through the southern part of the county, so as to enable a crossing of the mountain at the necessary grade of five degrees. This decision caused a lack of interest in the enterprise about Kingwood. In appreciation of its advantages—let it cross the mountain where it might—subscriptions were placed upon the books of the commissioners, yet naturally not nearly so many in number, or so large in amount, as if it had been located by Kingwood. Different causes in different places operated more or less against it, and it had made but slow progress up to 1831.

In this year the General Assembly, sensible of the great importance of the road, and the benefits to accure from its establishment, took the matter in hand, and rescued it from a precarious existence at the hands of a private company. An act was passed on the 19th day of March, 1831, providing for the construction of a turnpike road from Winchester to some point on the Ohio, to be known as "The North-Western Turnpike Road." Its importance urged the necessity of its creation, and in recognition of the one and to insure the other, the Governor was constituted president, the Attorney-General, treasurer, and they with the second Auditor of the Commonwealth, were constituted Directors of the road. They were authorized and empowered to borrow 125,000 dollars, on the credit of the State, to enter upon the prosecution of the work at the earliest date possible and practicable. The width of the road was not to exceed eighteen

feet nor to be less than twelve feet. The chief engineer was to graduate the road in such manner, that the acclivity or declivity thereof in no case should exceed five degrees. The commissioners were to issue certificates of stock for money borrowed, and a portion of the first funds received, was to be immediately appropriated for the location of the road by competent and well-skilled engineers.

Turnpikes, during the year 1832, received their full share of attention, from the General Assembly. On the 21st of January, an act was passed, adding Thomas M'Gee, Robert M'Gee and William Springer to the number of commissioners appointed to open and improve the road from the State of Maryland, by the way of Kingwood, to the Ohio River; and also the sum of money to be raised by lottery for that purpose was increased to 100,000 dollars. On the 29th of February, an act was passed authorizing the commissioners named, to raise by lottery 40,000 dollars to construct a road from Beverly, in the County of Randolph, to Morgantown, in the County of Monongalia. This road, as projected, was to pass through the western part of Preston.

The North Western Turnpike Road was located during this year, through the southern portion of Preston, by Charles B. Shaw, civil engineer, on the location of the road and his report of the same made to the General Assembly on the 31st of December.

At the close of this year, there were 66 slaves, and 1711 horses in the county; and the revenue paid to the State amounted to 546 dollars.

During the next year (1833), the North-Western Turnpike Road was building through the southern part of Preston.

Hugh Evans had cleared out some land, which came into the possession of his son James. On this land James Evans had built a house, and laid out a town site. Upon his petition to the General Assembly, that body established a town by the name of Evansville, on the 28th of January. Hugh Evans, Henry Walters, John Wilkins, Benjamin Leach and James Evans were appointed trustees, and were empowered to make all by-laws and ordinances for said town, whose limits were not to embrace over twenty five acres of land. Evansville was the fourth town on the territory of the county, established by the General Assembly. The location of the North-Western Turnpike Road was south of Evansville; but, on the 20th of February, the General Assembly changed the location of the road so far as to carry the same along the main street of the town.

All attention was now directed to turnpikes. In the northern part of the county the subject of turnpikes running from the Maryland line through that portion of the county, and connecting with other pikes at Evansville and Morgan town, was discussed. On the 11th of February, 1835, a resolution was agreed to by both houses of the Assembly, for a survey of a route for a road from some point on the Maryland line, near Smithfield, Pennsylvania, by way of Brandonville and Kingwood, to intersect the North-Western at or west of Evansville, in the direction of Clarksburg; and authorized the board of public works to appoint a competent engineer to survey and locate the road without delay.

On the 10th of March an act was passed directing the location of a road from the mouth of Fishing Creek, on the Ohio River, in the County of Tyler, by way of Morgantown, in the County of Monongalia, to Brandonville, in the County of Preston. This road was to be located on the route of Fishing Creek and Morgantown turnpike, previously projected by a company, but which it failed to construct.

The year 1836 witnessed the rapid progression of work on the North-Western Turnpike Road; and on the 6th of January the election poll, at the house of Isaac Criss, by act of Assembly was removed to the house of Wick Johnson, in the town of Evansville.

The board of public works, by act of Assembly passed on the 28th of February, 1837, were directed to have a survey made of Cheat River from the point at which the North-Western Turnpike Road touched it, to the Pennsylvania line. The object of this survey was to ascertain the practi cability and probable cost of making a sluice navigation between those points. On the 13th of March the subject of a turnpike from the Maryland line to a point at or west of Evansville, came up again in the General Assembly, and an act was passed that day incorporating the Brandonville, Kingwood and Evansville turnpike company, to construct said road The capital of the company was limited to 30,000 dollars, in shares, of twenty-five dollars each. for subscription were to be opened at Brandonville under the direction of Harrison Hagans, John Scott and Samuel Rodeheaver, or any two of them; at Kingwood, under the direction of Elisha M. Hagans, Israel Baldwin and Thomas M'Gee, or any two of them; and at Evansville, under the direction of Wick Johnson, John Wilkins and Wm. K. Smith, or any two of them. The survey for the road was to be made by a competent engineer appointed by the board of public works, and the expense of the survey was not to exceed one hundred and fifty dollars. The company was given the privilege to erect a toll bridge across Cheat.

On the 25th of March an act was passed by the General Assembly incorporating the Preston Mining and Manufacturing Company, for the purposes of mining and manufacturing iron and steel and other minerals in this county. H. R. Roby and others were to compose the company, with a capital from 10,000 to 100,000 dollars, and a right to purchase and hold land, not exceeding 1000 acres in the county.

On the 27th of the same month, an act was passed, "That Abraham G. Randal, —— Benedict, and such other persons as may be hereafter associated with them, shall be, and they are hereby incorporated and made a body politic and corporate, under the name and style of 'The Greenville Furnace and Mining Company' for the purpose of mining for and manufacturing iron and other minerals in the counties of Monongalia and Preston." The capital stock of the company was to be between 25,000 and 100,000 dollars, in shares of 100 dollars each, and they were to have the right to purchase and hold land, not exceeding 10,000 acres, in the same

counties. The members of the company were mostly from Boston, Massachusetts. Harrison Hagans, of Brandonville, was elected president of the company, and the manufacture of iron was begun upon a far larger scale than Watt Carlile had prosecuted it. The iron, as heretofore, was hauled to Cheat and boated to Pittsburgh to market, sometimes being carried down the Ohio as far as Cincinnati.

On the same day (the 27th), an act was passed by the General Assembly changing a part of the location of the Beverly road passing through the western part of the county.

The Assembly, after stopping for a short time from legislating on turnpikes, to consider the iron interests of the county, directed its attention again to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, and an act passed on the 28th of March, authorized the board of public works to subscribe on behalf of the Commonwealth for shares in the capital stock of this company to the amount of 302,100 dollars; the conditions upon which this money was subscribed were that the company should complete their road to the Virginia line, and satisfy the board that the road would be completed to the western limits of Virginia. And it appeared probable now that the Northwestern Turnpike Road would have a rival running through Preston, and bidding in competition with it for the rapidly increasing trade of the west. Many believed the railroad to be a doubtful matter, as they thought it an impossibility for a railroad to climb the mountain hights of the Alleghanies.

On the 30th of March, the Assembly appointed William B. Zinn, of Preston, one of seven directors of the Beverly Turnpike road, and the county court of Preston was authorized to receive subscriptions to the amount of two thousand dollars, to be used for the construction of the road, which was to be laid off in four sections, and one of these sections was in Preston County.

A petition was presented to the General Assembly, in 1838,

by the citizens of a part of Randolph County, asking that their part of the county be annexed to the County of Preston, for the purpose of saving long distances to be traveled in attending court. They had petitioned in 1828 for annexation, but contrary to their expectations, had been excluded from the part then annexed. They now renewed their petition, and it was granted. The General Assembly, on the 4th day of April, 1838, passed an act to add a part of the County of Randolph to the County of Preston, in the following language: "That so much of the county of Randolph as lies next to, and adjoining the county of Preston, and contained in the following boundaries, to wit: Beginning at a point in the line which divides the County of Preston from the County of Randolph, on the western summit of the Alleghany mountain, as run and marked under the authority of the act passed February 29, 1828, as aforesaid, and running thence in a straight line to the mouth of Muddy Run on the east side of Cheat River, where the line dividing Preston and Randolph counties crosses said river, shall be annexed to and henceforth a part of the County of Preston."

The turnpike roads, projected through various parts of the county, were mainly paper roads. The companies organized for their construction, failing to obtain subscriptions sufficient to warrant the commencement of their construction, were unable, through their representatives, to obtain sufficient appropriations from the Assembly to push them forward to completion. Yet not disheartened by repeated failures, the citizens persevered in efforts to secure these turnpikes, and procured act after act of the Assembly for the organization of turnpike companies.

On the 7th of April, 1838, the Assembly passed an act for the construction of a turnpike road from Brandonville to the Northwestern Turnpike Road. The road was to be constructed on the route surveyed and located for the Brandonville, Kingwood and Evansville Turnpike. Harrison Hagans, Israel Baldwin and Benjamin Jeffers were appointed directors of the road, in connection with two others to be appointed by the board of public works. From experience in past efforts, they did not rely on subscriptions to furnish the capital with which to build the road.

They petitioned, and secured the privilege of receiving subscriptions and loans from individuals and the county court of Preston, and in addition to this, secured an appropriation of one thousand dollars from the State. covered a portion of the road from Fishing Creek to the Maryland line, projected previously, and the remainder of it was located on the Brandonville. Kingwood and Evansville The Fishing Creek and Brandonville Turnpike by way of Morgantown was to connect with the Brandonville Turnpike by Kingwood to the Northwestern. This connection was to be made close to Brandonville. The Fishing Creek and Brandonville Turnpike had secured a loan of twelve thousand dollars on the 14th of February, from the board of public works to enable them to complete the road. On the 9th of April, the General Assembly passed an act to amend the act for the construction of the Beverly road, decreasing the amount to be raised by the county court of Preston from two thousand, the original apportionment, to one thousand three hundred and thirty-three and one-third dollars.

During this year, Valley Furnace, in the northern part of the county, was in blast under the firm management of Caldwell and Ochiltree. It was built within two miles of the State line. The iron was hauled to Cheat, and sometimes to New Geneva, Pennsylvania, and boated to market in the same manner as Greenville disposed of her metal.

At the close of this year, the Northwestern Turnpike was open clear through Preston County, and was stretching rapidly westward to the banks of the Ohio, and its projection and construction outside the county is worthy of a moment's notice, and will give a better understanding of the place it occupied in the history of the county.

General History.—The construction of the Northwestern Turnpike across the Alleghanies was a mile stone event along

the highway of progress and development in the history of Virginia. The French, while struggling with the English for mastery of the Mississippi Valley in 1753, regarded the Alleghanies as physical barriers to the westward advance of her daring rival. Anglo-Saxon perseverance has leveled that barrier in many places. The United States Government, in 1818, carried the National Road over this barrier, to bridge a possible chasm of disunion, threatened by consequences likely to grow out of Burr's attempt to sever the Mississippi Valley from the Union. This road connected the East with the West, and opened a way for the exchange of the products of the western soil for the fabrics manufactured in the cities on the sea board. Virginia foresaw the great advantages of this road, and the benefits derived by eastern markets from its construction, and considered the possibility of carrying a rival road across the barrier ridges of the Alleghanies to secure commercial intercourse between the eastern markets of Virginia on the sea board, and the vast stretches of territory north of the Ohio, then rapidly filling up by a westward tide of emigration. Having but limited means at command, Virginia pondered long over this subject of vital interest without taking definite action upon it. The practicability of many different routes for such a road was considered, but none were selected. The great enterprise was finally undertaken, when the General Assembly, on the 27th day of February, 1827, passed an act for the construction of a road from Winchester across the mountains, to some proper place on the Ohio River, between the mouths of the Muskingum and the Little Kanawha rivers. The North West Road Company was incorporated to construct it, and was to organize at Kingwood when fifteen thousand of their seventy-five thousand dollars capital was subscribed. This great road, while connecting the eastern and western interests of the State and increasing population in the counties through which it passed, would open intercourse between Virginia and a number of States, and several millions of people whose only access to the seaboard was by the National Road. Its effect on

Virginia would be to increase the population by thousands and the wealth by millions. It would build up great enterprises west, and develop mighty interests east of the mountains, and would contribute to the general welfare and rapid improvement of the whole State. Like any other great enterprise, it had to encounter its reverses as well as to achieve its triumphs. Improperly understood, hence ill-supported measures for its construction marked the time from 1827 to 1831. From 1831 to 1838, better understood, measures were undertaken for its completion. It was taken out of the hands of a private company and placed under the charge of a board of public works, whose head was the Governor. It was rapidly constructed in anticipation of the career of unexampled prosperity it was expected to bring about. A little later it was completed, and starting from Winchester came to Romney, and across the southwest corner of Maryland, crossing over Preston's mountain ridges, and on, climbing and descending long hills till it arrived at Clarksburg, and then continuing on over intervening valley and succeeding mountain until it reached Parkersburg, its western terminus, two hundred and thirty-seven miles from Winchester. The road, when finished and opend to the Ohio, was an achievement of the State, to be justly regarded with pride. It was wide and well built, in places being macadamized. with substantial bridges crossing all streams of any size. When finished, an amount of travel passed over it, which we can hardly credit to-day. Great numbers of travelers on foot passed and repassed over it, mail stages ran night and day, horsemen thronged it, two-horse wagons, four-horse wagons and six-horse wagons, singly and in streams, wound up and down its hills, and every night at some point along the road was a tide of travel claiming food, drink and shelter. The emigrant, with his little all, was daily pushing westward over it to the Ohio, to seek, or better, his fortune. Vast droves crowded and blackened it from the west to the east. Long lines of horses, flocks of sheep, and droves of hogs, intermingled with the cattle, and all together worked their

way by the week slowly to the eastern markets. They were collected in from the valleys of the Muskingum, the Wabash and the Scotia. The men in charge at night were hungry and tired, and to provide for their wants, taverns and stopping places sprang up as by magic all along the road. Provision and forage had to be gathered in large quantities. from the surrounding country. The immense business made the road a lively place, and forward and backward ran the farmer's wagon over a hundred country roads, transporting to these stands, flour and pork and beef and corn and potatoes and vegetables to feed the hungry traveling multitudes; while hay by the ton, oats and corn by the wagon load, came in to feed the animal masses. The productions of the soil found a ready market at home, and sold at the highest prices. Everything and everybody—was all bustle and stir, this was business; ves more, it was the life of business itself, and stimulated every industry to its highest capacity of production, bringing great prosperity to the country. If all this seems like the picturing of a fairy tale, it must be recollected that there were but two grand trunk lines between the East and the West, crossing the Ohio less. than one hundred and fifty miles apart, and that this road described was one of them, and was an outlet and inlet to the rapidly growing, farmer millions of the West in need of wares and goods and manufactures of the eastern markets. only to be obtained by them in exchange for these droves and grain and feed. Towns sprang up along the road wherever a favorable spot was found, whither on plain or mountain, by stream or rock, on fertile tract or barren waste. In summer's, heat or winter's cold, alike through storm or sunshine pressed on this great stream of travel. Two miles apart, and sometimes for every mile post on the road was a tavern, or stopping place for this great travel, with stabling, wagon yards. and fields fenced in for droves.

These stands and stopping places were stage-stands, wagon-stands; and in some places along the road the lines of demarkation were so closely drawn, that a stage would

net stop on any consideration at a wagon-stand, nor would the landlord of a stage-stand allow a wagon to stop with him, no matter what the necessity, while a wagoner would not think of stopping with the keeper of a drove stand, but generally wagoners and drovers stopped together.

It was one of the greatest, if not the greatest, State road that was built on the American Continent, prior to the introduction of steam as a motor; and its builders with their many scores of hands armed with picks and shovels, provided with carts and wheelbarrows, crossing the mountains, spanning the streams and sweeping over the valleys, left behind them a broad highway as a marvel of human energy.

The road had a splendid opening with brilliant prospects of unexampled prosperity before it, in the future to be increased by the augmented business of each succeeding year. The time was anticipated—not far in the future—when its road-bed would have to be widened and paved with rock to accommodate the increasing wants of the traveling public, and to entertain and feed the mighty moving throngs, houses would have to increase in numbers so that an almost continuous line would extend along each side of the great highway. The anticipation was founded on, and justified by the rapidly increasing travel, and fast-springing up taverns and towns along the great thoroughfare. The toll-gates or turnpikes along the road were gathering a harvest of toll, ample within itself to defray the expenses of proposed improvements on a large scale.

The traveler, crossing it by stage or on horseback, enjoyed a wild and romantic scenery, presenting some new and unexpected pleasure at every turn. Following its winding track up the mountain-side, he would gain its summit with an elevation of several hundred feet above some stream in a dark ravine below, whose waters from their great distance down looked like a thread of silver. Companion mountains hemmed him in on every side. Descending the mountain, he enters a valley, and crosses a lovely stream whose bright waters were hid from him by its overarching foliage, in his

descent of the mountain. Onward for mile after mile, and day after day, he thus pursues his journey, cheered by new scenes each hour, if he gives heed to Nature's beauties.

Above him often soared the majestic eagle, and from the forest came the warbling of innumerable songsters, while now and then across his range of vision would pass, with the swiftness of an arrow, the fleet-footed deer. Before him mountains on mountains arise till lost in the distance; now a stream broad and shallow, crosses the road, gently murmuring on its way to the river, and a few yards on a mountain rivulet, dashing down a steep hill-side, rushes across the road, and leaping from rock to rock, hurries on to swell the waters of some turbulent stream below, whose sullen roar falls upon the ear. Still following the road, he comes to a level plain, but before him in the distance "the blue outlines of distant mountains meet his view."

The advent of the Northwestern Turnpike, besides inaugurating a wonderful career of material prosperity, and opening to the traveler the romantic and beautiful scenery of Northwestern Virginia, was calculated to advance the intellectual, social, moral and religious interests of the communities through which it passed.

The stream of travel brought ideas of an advanced civilization from the East, and in time would give culture and refinement, and would awaken the same aspirations and ambitions in the West, that were born in the East.

The location and construction of the Northwestern Turnpike through Preston County, was a great event in its history. Entering the county on the east from Maryland, it swept forward over the high elevated plains extending from Laurel Hill Ridge. Striking Laurel Hill Ridge, it descended along the side of the Wolf Creek mountain by innumerable turns. In this descent of nearly three miles the beautiful view of the elevated plain was changed to one of wild and romantic interest. On the right the traveler looked down upon the tops of tall trees, many feet below the road-bed, and a hundred feet or more below them, scarcely discernible,

wound the waters of Wolf Creek. Beyond the creek and across the mighty chasm at whose bottom it ran, rose up a mountain, like a barrier wall, cutting off the range of vision in that direction. Turning to the left, steep up from the road to the summit of Wolf Creek mountain, it was a hundred feet or more, covered with a heavy forest growth.

As the descent continued toward the west, steeper and higher rose up that part of the mountain above the road, and steeper and deeper that part of the mountain below the road down to the waters of Wolf Creek, until the road left the creek and descended by the mountain to the narrow valley of Cheat.

At the foot of Wolf Creek mountain the road ran through the Valley of Cheat, heavily timbered, and mountains rose up on every side. Spanning Cheat with a splendid wooden bridge, costing 18,000 dollars, it followed the river down to the mouth of Big Buffalo Run, crossing it and a smaller stream called Flag Run, and again mountains heavily timbered rose up on every side, and every now and then a glance was caught of the wild, turbulent waters of Cheat forcing their way here through the heart of the mountains. Across the valley of Cheat was a wild and lonesome stretch crossed by Cheat, and mountain-henmed. An air of romantic interest broke the solitude of deep loneliness that rested over it, and arrested many an involuntary glance from the traveler and the passer-by.

The road passed out of the Cheat River valley, under the shades of the afterward famous "ice mountain," and entered in the shadows of the great Briery mountain. It ascended the mountain by innumerable short turns, round the heads of deep gorges, presenting a wild and varied scenery at every bend of the road. Attaining the summit of the mountain, it began the descent to the western base in the same winding manner that it had made the ascent from the eastern base, and the same scenery ascending, was presented descending. Now and then in ascending or descending at the heads of the wild gorges, looking down them glimpses of the country

for miles around the base of these gorges could be obtained, where hills rising on hills, and hills swelling back of hills, resembled billows on the ocean; and far away in the distance, looming up against the horizon, other mountains could be seen, standing in the solemn convocation of the everlasting Alleghanies.

At the western base of the mountain the road struck the valley of Little Sandy Creek, and passed down its valley over the site of Fellowsville and along the waters of Little Sandy, to the town of Evansville, then growing into quite a local center of business. Leaving Evansville, it passed with the waters of the creek over the western boundary line of the county.

For nearly thirty miles it climbed over the wooded hights and wound through the mountain valleys of Preston County. From afar off it appeared like a silver strand in the landscape—here in sight—there lost—here in sight again—again lost—then coming in sight and narrowing down to a single thread, losing itself in the clouds on some distant hill.

The road was built from the Maryland line to Cheat River under contract. Jacob W. See, an eastern man, was the contractor. He was to receive eight hundred and fifty doldars per mile. After working some time on the road he saw that he was likely to lose money on his contract at the rate it was costing him to build it. See, it is said, was eccentric, and would have prayers offered every morning when the men were called out to commence their day's labor. about 40 hands, and they soon discovered his weakness; and, in addition to the work time consumed by the daily prayers, would only perform about a half-day's work. He sub-let the Wolf Creek mountain part of the road to a man by the name of Kinkaid, at eleven hundred dollars per mile. Kinkaid contracted to make three miles. He employed about thirty men, and paid them 50 cents a day and boarded them—the same as See did his. These three miles were harder to make than any other three miles of the contract. Kinkaid was a better manager than See. He omitted prayers during work hours, got a better day's work done than See did; but having taken his three miles too low, he became indebted to the merchants for supplies for his men, and seeing he was going to come out in debt, ran away and left his sub-contract on See's hands.

Josiah Kidwell took the contract for the bridge, and built it for the sum of eighteen thousand dollars.

Some Eastern men took the contract from Cheat River to the top of the mountain, as Briery mountain was often called in those days.

Samuel Byrne took the next contract, which extended from the top of the mountain to a point just east of Evansville.

Hall and Vick Johnson took the next contract, extending from the termination of Byrne's to where Thornton now stands, in the County of Taylor.

It is said that none of these contractors made any money, as they all took their contracts too low; a fact that speaks well for the financial management of the directors of the road.

The road, when finished, was very wide, splendidly made, and carried through at the low maximum grade of five degrees of elevation. County roads came into it at different points along its route through Preston; and the Brandon-ville, Kingwood and Evansville pike was projected to connect it with the great National Road.

Along this road after it was finished, came several classes of men whose faces were to be very familiar along its thoroughfare for the next fifteen years.

First—There was the wagoner, with honest, weather-beaten face, driving his ones, his twos, his fours and his sixes, meaning these different numbers of horses in a team. There were the "regulars," who followed the road year in and year out; and the "privates," who only hauled for short lengths of time on the road.

Second—The stage-coach drivers generally were red-faced and hale, and of rough but jolly manner. They drove month in and month out; one week or month by day, and the suc-

ceeding week or month by night, as the old stage-coach never stopped except for repairs, and its driver only for a holiday. The stage-coach, painted in yellow and vermilion, was dear to its driver. It was built with portly body and plush-lined interior, with heavy boots fore and aft, as receptacles for trunks, with four or six horses attached. It stood a heavily constructed, lumberly looking, but easily riding vehicle of the pre-railroad period, surmounted by its inseparable accompaniment, the driver, with reins in hand. In that coach men have rode and talked and slept, have read and thought and meditated of matters of private interest and public importance.

The old stage-coach, like the street-car of our cities to-day, always had room for one more, even if he had to be disposed of by occupying a seat on top of the coach; and the driver was then ready to take another passenger.

Third—The drover with keen eye, questioning look and voluble speech, generally traveled alone on horse-back, like one of G. P. R. James's conventional horsemen, and was familiar with every crook and turn of the road, and the people living along. There was no animal submitted for his inspection, but had a blemish lessening its value in price, and which disappeared after once in his possession and for sale; or was of such small consequence that it did not affect its value in the least.

A Tragedy.—During this year (1838), according to different parties, a tragedy occurred on the Northwestern Turnpike. Stephen Blue and his brother John went out with Samuel Byrne, to watch for two darkey runaways from the East, that were reported to be on Cheat, robbing and plundering milk-houses. They secreted themselves in the bushes by the road side, about one mile and a half east of the site of Fellowsville, and watched for the appearance of the darkeys. After some time they discerned two negroes approaching; one of them was a large man, the other was small. When they approached sufficiently near, the Blues sprang out from their place of concealment. Stephen

caught the small negro, while John caught the larger one, who refused to submit and attempted to break away, and in the scuffle that ensued between him and Blue, put his hand quickly in his pocket and commenced drawing out a knife. Samuel Byrne, who was still remaining in the bushes, saw the act of the negro, and in the excitement of the moment raised the gun with which he was armed, and shot the negro to prevent him from killing Blue with the knife. The shot was fatal, and the negro fell with the knife in his hand.

Another Killing.—Some time between 1836 and 1838, a terrible tragedy occurred in the Green Glades, close to the site of Cranberry (Portland). A planter from the South had been at Baltimore, and purchased some eight or ten slaves to take to the State of Mississippi. The males were all children, except a boy about 18, called Ned. Among the women was one called Hetty, who was said to have been good-looking. Martin, the planter, in purchasing her, failed to obtain her husband, who was a very valuable slave. Hetty was terribly grieved at being separated from her husband. The planter loading up his slaves in a light spring-wagon, started by land to reach the Ohio at Parkersburg, and embark on a boat for home. He had made his overland trip as far as the Green Glades, a much used camping-place close to a good spring of water, where he stopped. The farther westward they came, the greater was Hetty's grief.

After they had lain down for the night, Hetty could not sleep for thinking of her husband; and finally, after the rest had sunk to slumber, she thought that if her new master was out of the way, their journey westward would be stopped, and she might be sent back to Baltimore, and be with her husband again. Pondering over this idea till near morning, she cautiously arose, and approaching her sleeping master, stole the pistol out of his pocket without awakening him. Quietly returning, she awakened Ned, and prevailed upon him to kill his master, persuading him that that would save them all from being taken South. Ned took the pistol, and placing it to his master's head, shot him. It was just before the

break of day. Ned, as soon as it was daylight, and before sun-up, started toward a house, and, meeting a man, told him that somebody had killed his master. The man took him to a house near by, where, on the repetition of his story, he was secured by the men, and returning with him to the camping-place, they found his master dead with a circle of holes in his skull made by the buckshot with which the pistol was loaded.

Charles Hooton was coroner, but could not attend; and John S. Murdock held the inquest over the body, after which it was given decent burial, and his money and property were cared for and proper disposition made of them. The slaves were lodged in jail. Trial by jury not being a right of slaves in Virginia, Ned and Hetty were put on trial before the County Court. The Hon. William G. Rrown defended the prisoners. Hetty was cleared on grounds of insanity occasioned by grief, but Ned was sentenced to be hanged for the willful murder of his master.

Silly creature that he was, he could no more realize the meaning of the death-sentence—the passport of his doom than he had realized the enormity of the crime that he was the instrument in committing. He was an ignorant, imbecile being, having "no mind of his own," cowering and cowed, turned to the right by the gee, and to the left by the haw of the stronger will, that, mastering, controlled his own at pleasure. Unthinking as the beast of burden, moral sense he had none. The minister, picturing before him the awful terrors of death, the wickedness of his foul deed, and the only way of escape from sin could not hold his attention. The thought of punishment here or hereafter moved him not he had no conception of it. While the man of God was faithfully endeavoring to impress the simplest truths of religion on his heart-with an opening grave before him, and the folding doors of eternity creaking in his ears—he broke out, "There's a mouse," as the little creature ran across the floor. This he did more than once.

Must the prisoner die whose moral sense is a blank, and

whose accountability rests with the stronger will of another that directs his volitions? He must. Must Ned die on the scaffold where a man's reason and moral sense ought never to bring him, and yet where his reason and moral sense only can legally bring him? He must.

Quickly the hours between the negro and eternity roll away; the moments hurry past like the dark, swift, swollen waters of Cheat. A scaffold, crowds gather; the executioner is at hand; the negro mounts the scaffold, the noose is adjusted, perhaps something good is said by some good minister or good spectator—a hush—a drop—Ned swings in the air, dangles, writhes, dies. The soul of the poor negro boy wings its way into the presence of its God, there to appear at the bar of Justice in the Supreme Court of the Universe.

Such was the first man hung in Preston County—a dumb, ignorant wretch, devoid of the mental and moral faculties that distinguish the man from the beast. Thus closed the first and only execution for murder that ever occurred in the county. The criminal hung was not a citizen of the county, and was hung for the murder of a man that was not a citizen of the county. The county has never yet hung any of her own citizens. Ned was buried beneath the gallows on which he paid the penalty of his crime, about a mile from Kingwood. As to the year in which the murder and execution took place, those that recollect it well, differ—some making it 1836, and others 1837.

We pass on now to the year 1839, and find that turnpikes are still a theme of discussion in parts of the county remote from the Northwestern road.

First Agricultural Paper.—In May, Joseph Miller and Jacob Alter, from Harrisburg, came to the vicinity of Brandonville, and set up the first printing press ever in the county. In that month they issued the first number of a monthly agricultural publication, called "The Mount Pleasant Silk Culturist and Farmer's Manual," which was the first paper of any kind ever published or printed in the county. Mount Pleasant was the name they gave the farm they had

purchased, where their periodical was to be printed. The object of the journal was to introduce the raising of silk-worms and the manufacture of silk. The publication was intended to introduce silk culture throughout several States, as well as to build it up in this county. The paper during the year obtained considerable circulation, and was well edited by Miller. In the northern part of the county some attention was given to the planting of the mulberry tree, whose leaves furnished the food of the silk worm; but elsewhere in the county the subject elicited but little attention.

Wolves still seemed to cross portions of the county not yet inhabited, and the General Assembly, on the 19th of March, authorized the county court to offer a reward for killing them.

On the 30th of March the Assembly passed an act authorizing 12,500 dollars to be paid by the State toward the completion of the Fishing Creek and Brandonville Turnpike. The next year, while work was being pushed forward on the above-named turnpike, in connection with the building of the Brandonville, Kingwood and Evansville Turnpike, a company had been projected to operate on Cheat, in the lumber and mining business on a large scale, and to enable them to successfully prosecute their enterprise the General Assembly, on the 7th of March, 1840, passed an act incorporating "The Preston Railroad, Lumber and Mining Company," with the privilege of making a railroad around the falls of Cheat River. The capital was to be from 50 to 500,000 dollars, in shares of 100 dollars. They could hold 10,000 acres The persons mentioned in the act of incorporation were Casper W. Weaver, Zalmon Ludington, Harrison Hagans, Elisha M. Hagans, and Buckner Fairfax.

The memorable political campaign of 1840 was conducted in Preston with all the excitement that characterized it over the entire country In its hight, John Tyler, the Whig candidate for Vice President, and afterwards President, addressed a political meeting in the Court-house.

As far as can be ascertained he was the only President that ever honored Preston with his presence, although at the time he was only a Vice-Presidential candidate. Many of those who looked upon his face and listened to his words, in the Court-house in 1840, have gone from the changing scenes of earth. No sentence of his speech can we reproduce, but in the place of the speech, we present his picture below—the picture of the only President of the United States ever in Preston.

First Newspaper.—During the political campaign, the "Silk Culturist" was suspended on account of insufficient support, and Miller and Alter issued a political newspaper, called "The Mount Pleasant Democrat," or "The Preston County Democrat." No copy of the paper can be found in

the county, and persons living who read it are not certain from recollection which of the two names it bore, only they are positive it was one of the two.

From its name, it would be inferred that it was a Democratic paper, but it was not. It was an ultra-Whig journal, supporting with great vehemence the claims of the Whig party, and warmly advocating the election of General Harrison as President of the United States.



JOHN TYLER.

By the census taken in 1840, Preston County had six thousand eight hundred and sixty-six inhabitants; six thousand seven hundred and forty-three white, thirty-two free colored, and ninety one slaves. Of her inhabitants, one thousand three hundred and forty-four were engaged in agriculture, eleven following commercial pursuits, one hundred and sixty-three manufacturers and tradesmen, one engaged as a sailor, nine as engineers; eight were revolutionary pensioners, three deaf and dumb, and four hundred and thirty-one of the whites over the age of twenty years could neither read nor write. Some of the other western counties had more than two thousand white inhabitants over twenty

years of age that could neither read nor write, which showed Preston County to be well advanced in education, as compared with them.

A glance here at the census of 1840, compared with that of 1830, may be worth a moment's attention. In 1830, there were four thousand nine hundred and forty-seven whites, twenty-seven free negroes and one hundred and twenty-five slaves, according to State returns, making the entire population five thousand and ninety nine; while the United States census made but five thousand and forty-nine. In 1840, there was an increase of one thousand seven hundred and ninety-six whites, five free negroes, and a decrease of thirtyfour slaves. The entire population in 1840 by State returns was six thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, while the United States census made but six thousand eight hundred and twenty nine. The total increase of population by the State returns, in the 10 years, was one thousand seven hundred and sixty-seven, and by the United States or Federal census, as often called, was one thousand seven hundred and eighty. The State returns were the more correct, as they were probably taken later in the year; and the Federal census may have only taken the three-fifths of the negroes recognized in the basis of representation. Preston was classed at this time by Virginia in what she denominated her trans-Alleghany district.

Educational matters now received considerable attentions by the people of the county. Parents, realizing its need and appreciating its benefits, made efforts to give their childrens the advantages of an education that they had failed to receive themselves. And while this move was made throughout the county to impart to the rising generation a good practical English education to fit them for the agricultural, mechanical and mercantile pursuits, an effort was put forth to secure to the people of the county the advantages of a higher education at home, not attended with the great ex-

pense of sending their children to leading schools of learning at a great distance away.

The idea was to establish an academy at the county seat, and employ competent instructors to impart a scientific and classical education at home, that would lead to a far higher degree of culture and refinement than existed, and establish for the county a reputation of being one of the advanced and enlightened counties of the State. This effort of some of the public-spirited and ambitious men of the county took shape in a petition to the General Assembly, presented by the Honorable William G. Brown, the representative from Preston to that body. On the 11th of December, 1840, on motion of Mr. Brown, the committee of schools and colleges was instructed to bring in a bill to incorporate the Trustees of the Preston Academy in the County of Preston. An act was passed by the General Assembly, on the 2d of January, 1841: "That for the purpose of establishing an academy for the instruction of youth in the County of Preston, Elisha M. Hagans, Israel Baldwin, Thomas Brown, Solomon P. Herndon, William Sigler, John P. Byrne, John Magee, John R. Stone, William Elliott, Buckner Fairfax, William Brown and William B. Zinn, be and they are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate, by the name and style of 'The Trustees of the Preston Academy." These trustees and their successors were empowered to purchase, receive and hold lands, tenements, rents, goods and chattels to the amount of thirty thousand dollars, and were to have power to dispose of the same in any manner that might seem conducive to the interests of the academy. After the passage of the act measures were taken to erect the academy building, which, however, was not finished till some two or three years afterwards.

Some counties of Northwestern Virginia were not destined to retain all the territory within their limits at the time of their organization, but Preston not only occupies her original territorial limits, but has been fortunate in securing additions from other counties since the time of her organization.

Between a part of the northern boundary of Preston and

the Pennsylvania line, extended a narrow, wedge-shaped strip of Monongalia County. The inhabitants of this strip were mostly about equi-distant from Morgantown and Kingwood, but to attend courts at Morgantown, or to repair there for the transaction of any business, required the crossing of a steep mountain and the passage of Cheat River by ferry, a dangerous operation often when the waters were high. go to Kingwood, there was no mountain to cross, and the ferry over Cheat afforded them better passage of the river. They petitioned for their separation from Monongalia and annexation to Preston. In this petition they were joined by citizens of Preston. This petition was presented by the Hon-William G. Brown, of Preston, and was referred to the proper committee, on the 23rd of January, 1841; and on the 15th of March, an act was passed by the General Assembly, "That so much of the County of Monongalia as lies east of the ridge of mountains called Laurel Hill, and north of Cheat River, next to, and adjoining, the County of Preston, and is contained in the following boundary lines, to wit: Beginning on the line dividing said counties at the point where it crosses Cheat River, and running thence a straight line to the England Ore bank, on top of the mountain; thence a straight line to the Osburn farm, so run as to include the dwelling-house of said farm in the County of Preston; thence a due north course to the Pennsylvania line, shall be annexed to, and henceforth a part of the County of Preston." The surveyors of both counties were required to meet and run the lines, which they did; and this strip became a part of Preston, while maps of the said lines were made and returned to the county courts of both counties, and recorded in their respective clerks' Every one now seemed busy in the county. Men of enterprise in every section were studying how to promote the interests of their localities. Many experiments were made and many projected ventures failed, as they always will under such circumstances; yet some were successful, and the spirit manifested showed the progressive character of the men in their different enterprises. The southern portion of the county was beginning to settle up, and its leading men gave all their attention to the Nortwestern Turnpike and its daily increasing wants—the supplies needed for an enlarging stream of travel. The northern portion of the county, partly satisfied with their turnpikes now in course of construction, gave some thought and attention to educational matters beyond the private schools in existence. Desirous of enjoying the advantages of a school of higher grade, they discussed the propriety of the establishment of an academy, similar to the one soon to be erected at Kingwood.

Petitioning the Assembly, an act was passed on the 27th day of March, 1843, "That for the purpose of establishing an academy for the instruction of youth in the town of Brandonville, in the County of Preston, William Brandon, John King, William Conner, Harrison Hagans, John Scott, A. C. Leach and James H. R. Donovan be and they are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate by the name and style of the Trustees of Brandon Academy." The value of property to be held by the trustees, was not to exceed twenty thousand dollars. After their appointment, the trustees proceeded to the discharge of their duties, and in due time the academy was erected.

From this time till 1846, nothing of unusual interest happened, beyond a steady increase of population, and the continued increasing stream of travel on the Northwestern Turnpike.

West Union.—A new town sprang up on this road, about this time, called West Union (now Aurora), about three miles west of the Maryland line; and to the house of William Talbert, in this town, was removed the election poll from John A. Wotring's, in Mount Carmel, by act of the Assembly. passed on the 28th day of February, 1846. It was the second of the Northwestern Turnpike towns in Preston, and the fifth town, in order of age, in the county.

James H. Grimes, a citizen of Preston, it is said, was a member of Captain Thornton's company, attacked by the Mexican troops on the 26th of April, 1846, near the Rio Grande River, and was one of the sixteen Americans killed

in the fight. These were the first killed in the war with Mexico. Thus Preston blood was mingled in the first crimson stream that dyed the earth in the great struggle between the United States and Mexico. During the war, sons of Preston were found beneath the banner of the Republic with Scott and Taylor, in the columns storming fort and castle—and in the triumphal legions planting the Stars and Stripes over the halls of the Montezumas, and some of them lie sleeping the last sleep in the burning sands of Mexico.

Work, in the meantime, was still being pushed forward on the turnpike from the Maryland line to the Northwestern Turnpike; and an act was passed by the Assembly, on the 16th of February, 1847, increasing the capital of the road by the additional sum of fifteen thousand dollars, of which the Commonwealth was to subscribe six thousand. The Assembly, on the 13th of March, 1847, authorized the board of public works to appoint a commissioner to examine the road from the Ohio, by way of Morgantown, to Brandonville, and estimate what amount of work had been done, and what sums for the same were due the various contractors building the different portions of the road.

Turning our attention at this time to another part of the county, we find the town of Evansville becoming quite a local center; its material interests rapidly increasing, and its citizens moving in the direction of mental improvement, petitioned the Assembly to incorporate a literary society which they had formed for mental, social and moral improvement. On the 20th day of March, 1847, it was enacted by the General Assembly, "That A. Barbee, J. Howard, James Morrison, Moses J. Robinett, E. E. Menshall, D. S. Stuart, John J. Hamilton, Charles Byrne and Julius C. Kemble, who now are or hereafter may become members of the society, be and they are hereby made a body politic and corporate by the name and style of 'The Evansville Literary Society of Preston County.'" The Society was authorized by the act, to

hold lands, goods and chattels to the amount of twenty thousand dollars in value.

Bruceton.—At the junction of the Brandonville, Kingwood and Evansville Turnpike with the road from the Ohio, by way of Morgantown, to Brandonville, on Big Sandy Creek, near Morton's mill, two or three houses stood at the time these turnpikes were projected; and, in connection with the mill, went by the name of Milford. In 1847, John Hoffman came into posession of the mill and houses, and laid out a town—the sixth in the county—naming it Bruceton in honor of his step-father, George Bruce, of Maryland.

The year 1848 was distinguished in the history of the county for a general resumption of past local enterprises, and the projection of new ones.

The General Assembly, on the 15th of January, passed an act to incorporate the Cheat River Toll-bridge Company, with a capital of ten thousand dollars, divided into shares of twenty-five dollars each, to build a bridge on the site and in place of the Cheat River bridge projected by the Honorable William G. Brown and others, heretofore mentioned. Books were to be opened for subscriptions at Kingwood, under the direction of Israel Baldwin, Thomas Brown, Elisha M. Hagans, John P. Byrne and Gustavus Cresap; and at Brandonville, under the direction of Harrison Hagans, James Hetherington and A. C. Leach; or, at either place, by any one of them. The State subscribed two-fifths of the stock. The bridge was to be commenced in two, and to be finished in three, years, on penalty of a forfeiture of the right to collect toll.

On the 13th of March, a Cheat River navigation company was incorporated, among the names of whose directors we find those of Elisha M. Hagans, Buckner Fairfax, Israel Baldwin and John Ambler. The board of directors was chosen from citizens of both Monongalia and Preston, but operations were never begun.

Work was still progressing on the two turnpikes connecting near Brandonville; and the indomitable energy and won-

derful perseverance of the public-spirited men of the county, was exhibited in the projection of a new turnpike, from West Union, by the way of Kingwood, to a point on the Beverly road beyond the western border of the county. The Assembly incorporated this road, known as "The Kingwood and West Union Turnpike," on the 25th of March, with a capital of ten thousand dollars, and appointed Jacob Startzman, John Shaver and William H. Grimes, at West Union, to receive subscriptions; and Buckner Fairfax, E. M. Hagans, and Israel Baldwin, for the same purpose at Kingwood, while other directors were appointed at Morgantown. This road was enabled to pass the paper stage of its existence, and was located and finished in the course of a few years.

County and private roads were rapidly multiplying all over the county, and several new ones connecting with the Northwestern Turnpike, were opened. The travel over the latter was becoming greater and greater every year.

Fellowsville.—During the spring of this year (1848), Sylvanus Heermans came from Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. bringing out a colony of Pennsylvanians and New Yorkers. He came as the agent of his uncle, Joseph Fellows, of New York, to look after his interest in a large body of lands in this county. Mr. Heermans laid out a town, three miles east of Evansville, on Little Sandy Creek and the Northwestern turnpike, at a point where the latter is joined by the Brandonville, Kingwood and Evansville turnpike. This town he called Fellowsville, in honor of his uncle. A land agency was established, and a hundred town lots laid out and offered for sale. Sites were selected for a large flouring mill, an extensive axe and scythe factory, an iron foundry, and a woolen factory. The erection of houses began; and thus was founded Fellowsville, the third town on the Northwestern Turnpike, and the seventh town in the county.

In the first building erected, Heermans placed a printing press, and issued, on the 10th of May, the initial number of a paper called "The Fellowsville Democrat." It was a fourpage sheet, well edited, ultra-Whig in politics, and an ardent

supporter of the claims of Henry Clay to the Presidency of the United States. It was the second newspaper printed in Preston County, and was published for some two or three years.

During the summer of 1849, Samuel Lewis and E. Thorpe started another paper at Fellowsville, called the "Preston County Herald." It was edited by E. S. M. Hill, and was the first Democratic, and the third, newspaper published in the county. It ran about a year only.

Fellowsville grew rapidly. Houses increased in numbers, a mill built, shops erected, and a large, commodious and well-arranged hotel was opened and kept by Heermans. It was noted as one of the best hotels on the Northwestern Turnpike, and the new town became quite a local center.

At this time, Evansville had three hotels and several shops. West Union, too, was slowly increasing. Along the turnpike was life and business activity, of which these three towns were centers.

This year a new voting poll was established at the house of Jacob Guseman, on Muddy Creek, by act of Assembly passed March 8, 1849. It was the fifth established in the county.

Preston was now a rapidly growing county. The population, according to the census of 1850, was as follows: Whites—males, 6943; females, 4619; total white population, 11,562: free colored—males, 37; females, 22; total of free colored, 59: slaves—males, 39; females, 48; total of slaves, 87. Total population, 11,708—an increase of 4679 in the decade from '40 to '50.

During the year ended June 1, 1850, there were 256 births, 75 marriages and 58 deaths.

The number of dwellings in the county was 1664, occupied by the same number of families.

Slaves had decreased from 91 to 87, and free negroes increased from 32 to 59.

Preston had 42 public schools, 42 teachers, 840 pupils; and had 675 dollars of public funds for the year; and two

academies, with three teachers and 70 pupils. Eight hundred and fifty-nine adults in the county could neither read nor write, of which number 159 were of foreign birth.

The county contained 63,948 acres of improved, and 172,477 acres of unimproved lands, in farms, whose cash value was estimated at \$1,105,218, with 58,588 dollars' worth of farming implements and machinery. Of horses the county had 2799; 17 mules, 3764 milch cows, 359 working oxen and 6462 other cattle; 21,781 sheep, 10,714 swine, whose value was estimated at \$279,619.

The county produced, during the year ended June 1, 1850, 36,769 bushels of wheat, 20,502 bushels of rye, 144,276 bushels of Indian corn and 153,496 bushels of oats; 820 pounds tobacco, 43,907 pounds of wool, 564 bushels peas and beans, 12,635 bushels Irish potatoes, 193 bushels sweet potatoes, 855 bushels of barley, 28,283 bushels of buckwheat, 179,836 pounds of butter, 4087 pounds of cheese, 7765 tons of hay, 45 bushels clover seed, 267 bushels of other grass seeds, 99 pounds of hops, 25,450 pounds flax, 1232 bushels flaxseed, 20 pounds of silk cogoons, 21,768 pounds maple sugar, 1548 gallons of molasses, 18,445 pounds of beeswax and honey. The value of orchard products was \$2041, and of market gardens \$463.

Churches and church property were given as follows: Six Baptist churches, whose value was 1200 dollars; 3 Free churches, of the value of \$650; 1 Friends church capable of seating 100 persons: Lutheran not given; Methodist, 11 churches—value, \$7,200; Presbyterian, one church—value, \$1000; Roman Catholic, 2 churches—value, \$1200; Tunker, one church—value, \$1000; Union churches, 3—value, \$1000, Total number of churches in the county, 28, capable of seating 4500 persons, with church property worth \$13,325. Pittsylvania was the leading county of the State for churches, and it had 50 only.

The labors of the convention of 1829-30, which amended the State Constitution, were not satisfactory to many at the time; and dissatisfaction with the amended constitution increased from the time of its adoption down to 1849, when it became so strong that a third convention began to be agitated, and propositions were made to the Assembly to provide for calling such a body together. In consideration of the wish of the people, as expressed through the many petitions laid before them, the General Assembly, on the 4th of March, 1850, passed an act to take the sense of the people upon the question of calling a convention, and added provisions for the organization of the same, if it should be called by the people. Many of the citizens of Preston favored the calling of a convention.

All officers, from the governor down to the most insignificant in executive and judicial stations, excepting members of the General Assembly, were appointed. A desire to change this, and to provide for the election of the governor and most of the other officers by the direct voice of the people, was one of the motives of those asking for a change in the Constitution of 1829–30.

During this year, work on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad was commenced in Preston County, and the iron pathway was the all-absorbing theme of conversation.

The western part of the county, sharing in the rapid increase of population, its people complained of the distance they had to travel to the election polls at Kingwood or Evansville, and asked for the establishment of a poll at the house of Samuel Graham, near the present site of Masontown, and another at the house of Jonathan Huddleson near Zinn's (now Brown's) mill; and the Assembly, by act of March 17, 1851, authorized separate elections at these places. The Assembly also established an election poll at the house of James Hays, near Cranberry. These were, respectively, the sixth, seventh and eighth election polls established in the county.

The Brandonville, Kingwood and Evansville Turnpike was now rapidly approaching completion; and the General Assembly, on the 21st of March, authorized the company to increase its capital by an additional sum of ten thousand dol. lars, for the purpose of planking or macadamizing the road, and making a branch from the wire suspension bridge on Cheat River, to the Kingwood and West Union Turnpike. The board of public works was directed to subscribe three-fifths of this amount.

On the 24th of March, the Kingwood and West Union Turnpike Company was authorized to increase its capital to the amount of ten thousand dollars, for the purpose of finishing the road to Kingwood, and extending it to Morgan town. Of this sum the board of public works was required to subscribe three-fifths on behalf of the Commonwealth.

The Cheat River wire suspension bridge was finished this year by David H. Kennedy, a civil engineer of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. A slight swag in its center caused the commissioners to retain five hundred dollars of the contract price as a forfeiture, before taking it off his hands.

The convention called by the will of the people, for the purpose of amending the Constitution of 1829–30, met in Richmond, and continued in session till 1851. The result of their labors, an amended constitution, was submitted to the people for ratification or rejection, on the fourth Thursday of August, 1851; and, receiving a majority of the vote cast, it became the Constitution and Form of Government for the State of Virginia.

The new constitution gave Preston County two members of the House of Delegates, instead of one, as the Constitution of '29–30. Preston, Monongalia and Taylor were constituted the forty-ninth Senatorial District. The basis of representation was denominated by the convention the "Mixed Basis," being based on the number of white inhabitants of the State and the amount of all State taxes paid: one delegate and one senator for every seventy-sixth part of said inhabitants, and one delegate and one senator for every seventy-sixth part of said taxes. This apportionment on the "mixed basis," was, by a provision, not to be subject to amendment until 1865. It gave the eastern part of the State a majority of representatives, owing to their great wealth, principally in

slaves, and to which its numbers in population would not have entitled it.

The constitution abolished the landed qualification of voters, and, in many things, was decidedly a great improvement upon the previous constitution. The General Assembly was to meet once in every two years, unless convened in special session by the governor. All property was to be taxed according to its value, except slaves who had attained the age of 12 years; and they were to be assessed with a tax equal to, and not exceeding, that assessed on land of the value of three hundred dollars.

Preston, with Harrison, Marion, Taylor, Barbour, Randolph and Upshur, composed the twenty first judicial circuit of the tenth district of the fifth section, into which the State. judicially, was divided. The judges of the circuits were elected by the voters thereof, and were to serve for a term of eight years. The county courts were to be held as before, in regard to time. A court was to be held on the second Monday of every month, termed monthly court, excepting the second Mondays of February, May, August and November, when its meetings were to be known as quarterly terms. The circuit courts of Preston County were to be held on the 26th of April and September. The voters of each county now were to elect a clerk of the county court, for a term of six years; a surveyor for a term of six years; attorney for the Commonwealth, for a term of four years; commissioners of the revenue, for a term of two years; also constables and overseers of the poor. Heretofore these officers had all been by appointment. Preston was divided into eight magisterial districts, and the voters of each district were to elect four justices of the peace, to be commissioned by the governor for a term of four years. These justices were to choose one of their own body for a presiding justice of the county court. The justices were to receive for their services in court a per diem compensation, but were to receive no fee or emolument for any other judicial services. The eight magisterial districts of Preston were laid off as nearly equal as possible, in

territory and population, by the following commissioners, appointed by the General Assembly (April 2, 1852) for that purpose: John J. Hamilton, Charles Hooton, D. C. Miles, Samuel R. Trowbridge, John J. Brown, Thomas Gregg, Harrison Hagans, William Conner, John Shaffer, Benjamin Shaw and John Feather. They laid them off as follows: east of Cheat—the First comprised all of the present District of Grant, in the northern part of the county; the Second included nearly all of what is now Pleasant District; the Third, the principal part of the present District of Portland; and the Fourth comprising the present territory of Union District; on the west side of Cheat—the territory of what is now Kingwood District, was included in the Ffth; the larger part of Valley District, as now constituted, formed the Sixth; the present boundaries of Lyon, with one or two exceptions, included the territory of the Seventh; and Reno District, as it is now, included almost all of the Eighth.

Election polls were established as follows: in the First, at Brandonville; in the Second, at Parnell's, near Chidester's, and at Miller's, near Muddy Creek; in the Third, at Feather's, in the Crab Orchard, and at Summit (Cranberry); in the Fourth, at Germany, in West Union; in the Fifth, at Kingwood; in the Sixth, at Graham's; in the Seventh, at Independence, Huddleson's, and at Martin's; and in the Eighth, at Evansville, Nine's, and at Funk's, all on the Northwestern Turnpike.

The first quarterly term of the county court, under the new constitution, convened in 1852, and elected John S. Murdock president. The body was composed of thirty-two justices. In personal appearance, it is said that the court was a remarkably fine looking body of men. An editor, from an adjoining county, complimented them by saying, "that so fine a looking body, physically and intellectually, resembled a session of congressmen, rather than a county squires' court." When he went home, the editor published a highly eulogistic account of the county court of Preston.

The new constitution, while it was an advance upon the

old one, contained features objectionable to many in the western part of the State; and during the first administration in power after it went into operation, a spirit of rivalry sprang up between the western and the eastern sections of the State, as a continuance of the struggle for political power that began long years before.

It was a stirring time in the county: the ideas of change in the new constitution were going into the test of practical operation, the awakening rivalry of sectional power and advantages were claiming attention with increasing interest; and, in addition to these, the iron pathway of a hitherto impossible enterprise, was being rapidly laid down, and the principles of the two great political parties of the day were being discussed upon the hustings all over the county in the presidential canvass of the year, whose result would make Franklin Pierce or General Scott the Chief Executive of the Nation for the next four years.

After the close of the presidential canvass, the spirit of enterprise in Preston County made a venture in a new field, showing that it did not too tenaciously cling to any old established order of things. Turning from the hitherto allabsorbing idea of turnpikes, the public-spirited men of the county, in connection with others in Monongalia, conceived the idea of a railroad from the Pennsylvania line, at the mouth of Cheat, by the way of Morgantown, to intersect the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at or near Independence. They foresaw the value of such an enterprise in building up the languishing iron interests of Preston and Monongalia, and opening up their great mineral wealth. With but limited means, imperfect ideas, and full knowledge of probable reverses and trials to be encountered derived from past experience in turnpike enterprises, they undertook to accomplish the construction of this railroad. They secured the passage of an act by the General Assembly, on the 30th day of November, incorporating "The Morgantown and Independence Railroad Company," with a joint-stock capital of 200,000 dollars, to be divided into shares of twenty five dollars each.

William G. Brown, John P. Byrne, Elisha M. Hagans and John A. Dille were appointed part of the board of commissioners, and were to open books for the purpose of receiving subscriptions to construct the said road; and when the amount of fifty thousand dollars had been subscribed, the subscribers were to organize the company and have power, if the capital of two hundred thousand dollars was insufficient, to borrow money for the purpose of finishing the road, and have five years within which to begin the construction of the road.

They failed in the attempt—it was an enterprise beyond the capacity of the country of those days. Sufficient interest was not taken, and sufficient means could not be obtained to make even a commencement; yet the day will come when the project will be carried out, and a railroad will be built from the State line, connecting with the Baltimore and Ohio at some point along its route in southwestern Preston, opening the great mineral wealth of the northern and western portions of the county—building a line of furnaces along the eastern base of Chestnut Ridge, and developing its coal-beds, to-day but scarcely known, and little worked.

With the close of the year 1852, ended a period of time in the history of Preston County, extending from 1831 to 1852, that may be fitly termed The Turnpike Period, as the projection and construction of turnpikes was the main object of enterprise, and though many of them never got out of their paper infancy, yet three of the many lines that were projected, now approached completion—one from Morgantown, over the mountain, to Bruceton, connecting with another from the great National road, by way of Brandonville and Kingwood, to Fellowsville, on the Northwestern Turnpike; and the third, from West Union, on the Northwestern Turnpike, to Kingwood, extending to the western part of the county, and leading to Morgantown; while preceding them, and at the beginning of the Period, was the construction of the great Northwestern Turnpike, building up towns, and dotting every mile of its track through the county with taverns. In all its glory of moving multitudes, it feared no rival, cared for no effort of competition, and scorned the idea of an iron road crossing the mountains parallel with its own track, and entering into competition with it for the products of the western prairies. But the railroad had dispensed, in a large degree, with horses as moving power; had introduced steam, and now had entered the county, and following the streams that cut deep their channels through the ridges. came to a heavy mountain, and going through it with the longest tunnel then in the world, continued on Crossing the western boundary of Preston, it kept on a short distance, then divided, sending two lines to the banks of the Ohio.

And when, on New Year's, 1853, the first train entered Wheeling, and the shrill whistle of the locomotive was heard on the waters of the Ohio, the days of the old turnpike were numbered; its immense throngs were destined soon to be transferred to its daring rival; and wane of travel, desertion, and decay, was the fate the future had in store for it. And soon, very soon on the old highway

"We hear no more of the clanging hoof,
And the stage-coach rattling by:
For the steam king rules the travel'd world,
And the old 'pike's left to die."

The Turnpike Period is closed, and we come to the Railroad Period, introduced by the construction and opening of the Baltimore and Ohio through Preston County, with first a brief glance at its origin, object of construction, and slow progress westward to the Ohio.

General History.—Turnpikes were the first great roads constructed across the once-supposed impossible barriers of the Alleghanies. The next plan to unite the East and West, was to carry canals through the Alleghanies from the headwaters of the eastern rivers to the head-waters of the western rivers. However, the project made but little headway till the era of railroads, when attention was turned to the possibility of their crossing the Alleghanies, and reducing eventually a fortnight of travel from east to west, to a single day's

journey. A railroad was talked of from Philadelphia west, over the mountains, to Pittsburgh, to secure the commerce and productions of the West.

A rival road was discussed in Baltimore by a few men of enterprise, to run from that city west, over the mountains, to Wheeling, on the Ohio River. These discussions led to the call of a meeting at the house of George Brown, in Baltimore, for the further consideration of the important subject, and to take some definite action upon the prosecution of the enterprise, if it was determined to attempt it.

On the 12th day of February, 1827, a few persons met at Mr. Brown's house, according to the call, and proceeded to organize the meeting by electing William Patterson chairman, and David Winchester secretary. After a brief discussion, the meeting was adjourned to convene on the 19th of February; and at this meeting, the chairman read thirtyfour pages of a printed report, prepared to show the possibility of constructing a railroad from Baltimore to the Ohio River, at Wheeling, and that Baltimore was one hundred miles nearer than Philadelphia, and two hundred nearer than New York, to the Ohio River, and that the road would only have New Orleans to compete with for the trade of the whole West. After the report was read, they determined to organize a company for the immediate prosecution of the enterprise. A charter was applied for and obtained from the General Assembly of Maryland, on the 24th day of April, 1827. The company was organized, and books opened for subscriptions. The capital stock was four millions, of which the State of Maryland and the City of Baltimore subscribed one million, and the other three millions were to be raised by individual subscriptions. On the Fourth of July, 1828, amid a great crowd of people, the venerable Charles Carroll of Carrollton (a signer of the Declaration of Independence) laid the corner-stone of the "Baltimore and Ohio Railway." The road, encountering reverses, made slow progress, having only reached the Point of Rocks by 1831. In this year the Assembly of Virginia gave the road authority to cross the

State to Wheeling, under certain restrictions. Horses were used to pull the cars until the summer of this year, when the first locomotive, the "York," was put on the road, with gratifying results. It was built by Phineas Davis, of York, Pennsylvania. The next locomotive was the "Atlantic," and then followed the "Franklin." In 1850, the road had reached Cumberland, and was projected west of Cumberland to Wheeling. It was laid to Piedmont in June, 1851; and during 1851 and 1852, it was completed from Piedmont to Wheeling, where the first train entered on the first day of January, 1853. Thomas Swann was president of the board of directors when the road was finished, and George Brown was the only member of the first board of directors that was a member of that board now.

After evercoming many difficulties, and fighting many hard battles for life, the company was finally successful in carrying their road over deep gorges on high trestle work, through facing mountains by long tunnels, across turbulent streams by heavy masonry work, and along the sides of steep mountains by blasting a track through the solid rock. From Baltimore to Wheeling, after crossing the Potomac at Harper's Ferry, wild and impressive, grand and magnificent scenery presents itself along the whole route, till leaving the mountains to descend to Wheeling. Indeed, the mountain scenery of the road is pronounced by tourists as wonderfully grand and beautiful. And over its rails a daylight trip across the Alleghanies possesses attractions of scenery which captivate the dullest eye. But leaving the general attractions of a road famous all over America for its grand and magnificent scenery, we turn to its location and construction through Preston, to the consideration of the rapid building up of the country along its route, and to take a glance at the wild, beautiful and impressive mountain scenery it opens to the traveling public, with a moment's attention to the great obstacles of nature in its pathway that were triumphed over by the science of engineering.

Several routes had been proposed from Cumberland to

Wheeling, one even running through Pennsylvania; but finally the present route was selected, and was surveyed in 1850. The work of construction was immediately commenced, and rapidly pushed forward till the close of 1852. when the road was opened throughout to the public, on the first day of the new year. It was located through a region of country with but here and there a house. In this county, a house was standing on the site of Rowlesburg, one or two where Newburg stands, and a mill and two or three scattering houses where Independence is. When it was finished, Cranberry, known as Salt Lick Falls, Rowlesburg, Newburg and Independence had sprung into being as towns; and a few houses, known afterwards as Greiggsville, and now a part of Tunnelton, had been put up on Tunnel Hill. rate of growth was far more rapid than the town-growth of the Northwestern road when it was built. Houses were built in many places along the road, but principally all that came endeavored to rent or build in the towns. Prospectors for coal made their appearance, and carefully examined the country adjoining the railroad. No coal to amount to any thing was found east of Cheat; but west of the river, along the line of the road, it was found in large quantities, and of fine quality. Mr. Henry, now the efficient Superintendent of the Orrel Coal Company's works, at Newburg, came out and prospected very successfully for coal, and opened the above named mines. Shortly afterwards, he became Superintendent, and with quite a little colony, founded Scotch Hill, just south of Newburg. Formerly the place, which had been settled at an early day, went by the name of Sand Hill. The road entered Preston on the east, from Maryland, and came past the falls of Snowy Creek, and up its valley, passing through the Green Glades, to Cranberry Summit, at the head of Snowy and Salt Lick creeks, 2550 feet above tidewater. From the crest of the mountain, it commenced a westward descent of twelve miles to Cheat River. Starting at Cranberry Summit in its descent it passes through McGuire's tunnel, 500 feet long, and Rodamer's tunnel, two miles below it, and 400 feet in length, over the site of the little village of Rodamer's, now building, and on over heavy embankments, through deep excavations, with mountains on the right and mountains on the left, it came down Spruce Creek, crossing which, it came to the waters of Salt Lick again. Here, crossing that stream on a stone and iron viaduct, 50 feet wide, with a fifty-foot span, it follows its gorge-like valley, boundary-walled with lofty mountains, to where it opened into the Cheat River canon. Passing over that wild and turbulent stream on a bridge of two arches of iron and timber, respectively, of 180 and 130 feet span, resting on abutments and a pier of blue colored freestone, it enters Rowlesburg, located in a small amphitheater, hemmed in by Battery Hill, Quarry Mountain and a westward-running ridge.

Leaving Rowlesburg in the shade of its mighty mountains. "the sentinels of the centuries," the road begins its five mile ascent of the mountain, with a grade of one foot to every fifty of the distance. It goes up the left-hand hill of Cheat. frequently fissured by the deep gorges worn by small streams that empty into the river. Soon in the ascent it comes to Keyser's Run, the first of these streams that for untold centuries have been wearing down their channels through the hill to the river. The road crosses its deepmouthed gorge by a solid embankment of 76 feet; then winds along a steep face of the hill to the Buckeye hollow. where it crosses the 400 feet of chasm on a cast-iron viaduct. that rests on a solid wall of masonry, built 120 feet from a solid rock foundation in the bottom of the gorge. From the "little trestling," as this viaduct was often called, the road cuts its way along the side of the hill, passing two or three projecting coves, and comes to the mouth of Tray Run. Its upward route to this point lay a hundred feet or more above the waters of Cheat, whose right hand bank was almost against mountains that rise up toward the sky, fissured by shadowy gorges, and to the eye of the traveler presents an impressive scene. Tray Run ran at the bottom of a great gorge, 600 feet across from wall to wall at the top, and 180

feet down to the waters of the run. On the solid rock in the run was built a solid wall of masonry, 130 feet high, from wall to wall of the gorge; and on it was placed a cast-iron viaduct, 50 feet high, extending from side to side. At the time of its construction it was the grandest viaduct in the world. Over it the road was carried 600 feet. Cheat here winds along the base of the mighty hills imprisoning it, 200 feet below on the right of Tray Run. Trees on its banks look to the traveler on the railroad like shrubbery, while the mountains rising up toward the heavens, shadow its waters of coffee-color hue with a darker tinge than they receive from the dense forests of laurel and black spruce through which they have broken.

Leaving Tray Run, whose bridging was a wonderful feat of engineering, the road goes on, in its continued upward ascent, along a precipitous slope, with heavy cuts, fills and walls. To the passenger the changing scene is increasing in interest—mountains on the right—mountains on the left—mountains looming up in advance, and mountains piling up as the last glance is flung back. The road here reaches the Buckhorn branch, a wide cove in the western flank of the mountain, crossed by a solid embankment and a retaining wall 90 feet high. A little distance on, and the road bids adieu to the river, now full five hundred feet below, and almost buried in foliage.

To the right the impetuous river turns, and dashes to the northward to escape from confining ridges; to the left the road turns, and stretches westward through a low gap, by a deep excavation, and then by a deep, long cut crosses Cassidy's Summit, and is beyond the crest of the mountain. At the west end of the cut (now called 80 cut), the road enters the table-land of the west Cheat River country. On the eastern side of Cassidy's Summit, it left the great Cumberland Valley, and at the west end it entered the extensive Newburg coal-region. It now commences the descent of the pountain at the grade of ascent, crossing over the bushy

fork of Pringle's Run by a high embankment, and, in a short distance, reaches the celebrated Kingwood Tunnel.

Lemon, Gorham, Clark and McMahon had the contract for making this tunnel. In its making was employed a small army of Irishmen armed with carts, wheelbarrows, shovels, picks, crowbars and drills. A deep excavation was made at each end and rapidly worked, while three shafts were sunk from the top of the hill. The shafts were 15 by 20 feet at the top, and were sunk 180 feet. Two locomotives were brought upon the ground, and used to carry iron, rails and all kinds of material needed, over the top of the hill. were run up on a temporary track laid at the remarkable, grade of 500 feet to the mile. It required two years and eight months to make the tunnel. It is 4100 feet in length, and was cut through a compact slate, partly over-laid by a limestone roof. It was afterward arched with brick, on account of the roof being unsafe. At the time of its completion, it was the longest tunnel in North America, and one of the greatest engineering triumphs of that day. When completed and measured, it was found that 200,000 cubic yards of earth and rock had been removed, 110,000 yards from the outside, and 90,000 vards from the inside.

The road, leaving the Kingwood Tunnel, descends a long, steep hill, and crossing a narrow valley by an embankment, passes through Murray's Tunnel, 250 feet in length, cut as a semi-circular arch, out of fine solid sandstone, with a floor resting on a bituminous coal vein 6 feet thick. From the tunnel it passes the site of Austen, and comes to Newburg, called in the day when the road was built, Simpson's Water-Station. Leaving here, it winds in several curves to Independence; and from there, pursuing the valley of Racoon Creek, passes out of the county.

The wonders of this great road have been attractive to every observing traveler who ever passed over it; and that portion of it extending through Preston for nearly thirty-three miles, has always possessed its full share of fascination for the traveling public. The view along the Snowy Creek

valley; the mountain-hemmed Green Glades; the broken hills extending westward from the Summit; the wild, impressive stretch along Spruce Creek, with its towering mountain hills; the rugged, but charming scenery of Salt Lick gorge; the grandeur of the great Cheat River mountains at Rowlesburg; the wild beauties of Cheat; the dark shadows of deep gorges; the wonderful depths below the great trestle-works; the charms of mountain scenery around Cassidy's Summit; the changing views along the western descent; the ride through the great tunnel in midnight darkness; the broken hills fringing the valley of Racoon Creek—all these, and numberless other attractions of the same sort, greet the gaze of the lover of beauty.

While the road was in course of construction the "Irish War," as it was called, occurred. Irish from Connaught. Cork and Fardown, in Ireland, were working on the road. The Connaughts and Corkonians came to the conclusion that the Fardowns should leave the road and go elsewhere to work. It is said that about 500 of the combined factions assembled at Fairmont and took up their line of march eastward along the road, every Fardown fleeing as they came. Arriving at the site of Newburg, a considerable number of Fardowns engaged there took to the woods, and the invading force continued on to Tunnel Hill, where they camped. The acting sheriff, Colonel J. A. F. Martin, collected a force of about 130 men, and repaired to Tunnel Hill. and quelled the disturbance. The invaders offered no resistance, and left. Several of them were arrested, held a couple of days, and discharged, as they had not offered any resistance to the sheriff's force nor inflicted any injury on the Fardowns.

During this year (1853), the section of the county through which the railroad passed, built up rapidly. The General Assembly, on the 21st of February, changed the terms of the circuit courts in the twenty-first district for the County of Preston, to the sixteenth day of March and the sixteenth day of August. An attempt was made to remove the seat of

justice from Kingwood. The passage of an act by the General Assembly, on the 14th of March, was secured, for taking the sense of the voters of Preston County in relation to the removal of the seat of justice from Kingwood to the east side of Cheat River, at the wire suspension bridge. A vote was taken upon the subject in accordance with the provisions of this act, and resulted in a large majority against the proposed change.

The town of Bruceton was incorporated by an act of the Assembly, passed on the 28th of March, and A. J. Pell, N. R. Harding and Charles Kantner were appointed commissioners to make a plan of the town, to be recorded in the office of the court of Preston County.

The town of Fellowsville was incorporated by an act of the Assembly, passed on the 30th day of November, 1852; and Robert Knotts, Sylvanus Heermans, Isaac Travis, Edward Thorp and Philip W. Payne, or any two of them, were appointed to hold an election on the first Monday in March, 1853, for five trustees of said town, and the said election was held at the time appointed.

For several years prior to the construction of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, a turnpike, to run from Brandonville to West Union, had been discussed, and measures had been taken to organize a company for its construction, but without avail. In 1853, a move was made to organize a company to build a turnpike from Brandonville to Cranberry Summit, connecting portions of the northern and eastern parts of the county with the railroad, by a good wagon road. The General Assembly, on the 10th of February, passed an act, "That for the purpose of constructing a turnpike road from the Cranberry Summit, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, in Preston County, to intersect the Maryland and Ohio turnpike, at the town of Brandonville, in said county. upon or near the location made by Thomas Scott and others. commissioners appointed by the court of said county to locate said road, it shall be lawful to open books for receiving subscriptions." The joint-stock capital was not to exceed

8025 dollars, and was to be divided into shares of 25 dollars each. Subscription books were to be opened at Cranberry Summit, under the superintendence of William B. Crane, James Hays, E. M. Hagans and James C. McGrew, or any one of them; at Jacob Guseman's store, on Muddy Creek, under the superintendence of Jacob Guseman, Joseph Miller and Jacob Crane, or any one of them; and at Brandonville, under the superintendence of Harrison Hagans, A. C. Leach, Jacob Fike, and Joseph Ritenour, or any one of them. board of public works was to subscribe for three-fifths of the amount of the stock. When 107 shares had been subscribed, the company was organized according to law. When finished, the road was 18 miles and 58 poles long. It cost 304 dollars per mile. A report of the Kingwood and West Union Turnpike, made this year and signed by D. C. Miles, president, and James Evans, superintendent, shows that this road cost 327 dollars per mile from Morgantown to Kingwood.

From 1853 to 1855, nothing occurred in the county of sufficient importance to be worthy of record.

The summer of 1855 was characterized by a long dry spell of weather, injuring crops and drying up streams, and is known among the older people living as the "Dry Summer."

The coal, iron and lumber interests in the southern part of the county took fresh life in 1856. The Assembly, on the 26th of February, passed an act incorporating the Rowlesburg Lumber and Iron Company, composed of Owen D. Downey, Thomas C. Williams, John A. Lloyd, Charles M. Bishop, and such other persons as might hereafter be associated with them for the purpose of mining coal, and other minerals, for manufacturing iron and other products of their lands, and for the erection and operation of saw-mills in the County of Preston. The capital stock of the company was to consist of twenty-five hundred shares of twenty-five dollars each. On the 21st of February, the Assembly incorporated the Preston Coal and Iron Company, in the counties of Hampshire, Hardy

and Preston. The capital stock of the company was to consist of twenty-five thousand shares of twenty-five dollars each. The company was authorized to purchase, receive and hold lands, not exceeding seventeen thousand acres in the three counties.

Masontown.—During this year (1856), William Mason moved to the site of Masontown, from Albrightsville. He put up a house and store, and founded this town, named after him.

Reedsville.—James Reed, of Monongalia, previously of Berkeley County, Virginia, bought the tract of land on which is the larger part of the site of Reedsville. He moved here in 1827. About 1855 a house was built, and in 1856 a store was erected, and the place was named Reedsville, after James Reed.

The presidential canvass of 1856 was marked in Preston County by the usual amount of interest manifested in these occasions, and the candidates and principles of the Democratic and American parties were discussed all over the county, while the candidate of the Republican party received no attention whatever.

The rivalry for political power between the eastern and western sections of the State, was increasing in magnitude every day; but in this struggle the eastern section was continually the winner. The "mixed basis" gave her a majority in the Assembly, although her voters were less in numbers than those of the western section. The eastern section used this majority to vote large donations from the public treasury, to build railroads and canals east of the Blue Ridge. Charters of ample scope and liberal provisions were readily obtained in the east, while the west, in many instances, was denied the privilege of constructing works, or commencing great enterprises, by the aid of individual subscriptions alone, as acts of incorporation could not be secured. The western politician, for the honor of election to the House of Delegates, went before the people denouncing in unmeasured terms the unjust and unequal distribution of the public funds for in-

ternal improvements, pledging himself to procure an appropriation of a few thousand dollars to aid in the construction of a "mud-pike." And often, to secure these paltry appropriations for his constituency, a western member would combine-"log roll"-with eastern representatives, and vote large sums to eastern enterprises. To get a hundred for his people, he would vote to appropriate a thousand for the eastern part. During the Turnpike Period, so powerful was the man with the people that could obtain an appropriation for a turnpike, that they never concerned themselves to know whether he obtained it by successfully presenting its merits to the House, or secured it by combining and voting great sums to eastern projects. They would, in many cases, drop their political prejudice of party, and vote for the representative who had proved successful in procuring a little of the State's money, for his "dear people," and elect him over the candidate of their own political faith. The great wealth of the eastern planter was in slaves, a species of property that many of the western farmers were averse to possessing; while others, owning a few slaves, did not increase their numbers, as the character of the country, the changing climate and unfavorable surroundings rendered the employment of slave labor unprofitable. It was the policy of the east to employ slave labor under its favoring conditions of climate; it was the interest of the west to discard slave labor under its unfavorable conditions of climate.

Petitions were sent in to the General Assembly, whose subjects of complaint were unequal representation and unjust taxation; and upon their rejection, men claimed that if this order of things was to continue, there could be no identity of interests between the two sections, and that the best interests of both would be promoted by the formation of a new State west of the Alleghanies, free from the institution of slavery, and whose officers should all be elected upon a basis of suffrage alone.

In 1856 the stone Court-house was found to be too small for the transaction of the increasing business of the county, and a new Court-house was ordered to be built. The contract was taken by James C. McGrew, for seven thousand dollars, and a fine brick Court house was completed in 1857.

Turning again to the local affairs of the county for the next year, the first act to record is the incorporation of the Town of Brandonville, on the 24th of February, 1858. "The officers of the said town," said the act of incorporation, "shall consist of seven trustees, who shall compose the council, and a sergeant." William McKee, Harrison Hagans and Joseph Ritenour, or any two of them, were authorized to hold an election for said officers on the first Monday in June.

On the 27th of February, Rowlesburg was incorporated, the officers to consist of a mayor, five councilmen and a sergeant. Russel Finnel, H. H. Wheeler, D. Wonderly, junior, T. F. Hebb and William Hall were authorized to hold an election on the first Saturday in April.

On the 23d of March, an act was passed by the Assembly incorporating the Masontown and Independence Turnpike Company, with a capital of two thousand five hundred dollars. Books were to be opened in Independence for receiving subscriptions, by John Howard, Samuel Rodgers, Jacob Weaver, George D. Zinn and Philip Menear, or any three of them.

The Preston Register.—On Friday morning, June 11, 1858, D. B. Overholt issued the first number of the above-named paper, at the county-seat. It was the first newspaper ever published in Kingwood; the second Democratic, and the fourth, paper ever published in the county. Its career was short, not lasting over two years.

The cause of temperance received attention in the county, and on the 24th of March the Assembly passed an act, "That William Hall, Albert L. Hooton, Charles M. Bishop, William Graham, and John H. Borice, and such others as are regularly associated with them, are hereby incorporated a body politic and corporate, under the name and style of Rowles burg Division No. 280 of the order of the Sons of Temperance, situated in Rowlesburg, in the County of Preston."

June Frost of 1859.—During the spring of 1859, wheat was selling at an advanced price, but in the latter part of May the promising crops of cereal caused the price to decline. On Saturday, the 3rd of June, waving fields of wheat in bloom were to be seen all over the county. Night came, and with it a visitor. When the light of day broke on the Sabbath morning, the trees and the earth were white as with a heavy snow. A great frost had fallen, and when the sun rose up in the eastern heavens, drooping leaf and wilting blade were cause of alarm to an excited people. A great many supposed there would be a famine in the county, and, not even waiting for the Sabbath to pass, set off in quest of grain, which advanced with a bound to a high price. People turned from the beautiful wheat crop ruined, and, breaking up large fields, planted them in buckwheat, corn and potatoes. The remainder of the season proved favorable, and large crops were gathered from these late plantings. There was no token in the opening of the year 1860, of the heated political canvass that was soon to convulse the Union, and result in the election of Abraham Lincoln.

An act was passed on the 18th of February by the General Assembly, incorporating Bruceton; and Samuel Wiles, Charles Kantner and Jesse Beerbower were appointed commissioners to superintend an election for a mayor and six trustees.

On the 13th of the succeeding month, Independence and Cranberry Summit came before the Assembly asking for the honors of incorporation, which were granted by acts passed the same day. Independence was incorporated with a town council of seven trustees and a sergeant, and John W. Perry, Samuel G. Rogers and John Howard, or any two of them, were to hold an election for members thereof. Cranberry Summit, beside an act of incorporation, desired a change of its name, and to be known as Portland thereafter. The Assembly passed an act incorporating the town by the name of Portland. The officers of the town were to be seven trustees and and a sergeant, they composing the council.

James W. Brown, M. F. Stuck and William Glover, or any two of them, were authorized to hold an election for members of said council.

Another decade had gone and the Eight Census of the United States, compiled from official returns, showed that the population of Preston County was as follows: Whites—males, 6780; females, 6402; total white population, 13,182: free colored—males, 28; females, 17; total of free colored, 45; slaves—males, 31; females, 36; total of slaves, 67. Total population, 13,312—an increase of 1604 in the decade from '50 to '60.

Slaves had decreased from 87 to 67, and free negroes from 59 to 45.

The county contained 92,663 acres of improved, and 195,351 of unimproved, lands in farms, whose cash value was estimated at \$2,257,314, with 100,929 dollars' worth of farming implements and machinery.

Of horses the county had 3326; 41 mules, 4993 milch cows, 591 working oxen, and 5846 other cattle; 19,084 sheep; 8854 swine, whose value was estimated at \$461,133.

The county produced, during the year ended June 1, 1860, 8933 bushels of wheat, 10,778 bushels of rye, 71,063 bushels of Indian corn, and 104,317 bushels of oats; 185 pounds tobacco, 47,493 pounds of wool, 107 bushels of peas and beans, 44,655 bushels Irish potatoes, 25 bushels sweet potatoes, 4 bushels barley, 95,357 of buckwheat, 340,988 pounds of butter, 9142 pounds of cheese, 5308 tons of hay, 159 bushels of clover seed, 108 bushels of other grass seeds, 73 pounds of hops, 5355 pounds flax, 471 bushels flaxseed, 2 pounds of silk cocoons, 16,723 pounds maple sugar, 1721 gallons of maple molasses, 579 gallons sorghum molasses, 322 pounds beeswax, 15,474 pounds of honey, and 6 gallons of wine. The value of orchard products was \$40. The value of home-made manufactures was \$20,088.

The political campaign drew on, and a feverish excitement prevailed. Four presidential tickets were in the field, and men felt that a crisis had come in the affairs of the Nation From the stump every power of the orator was used to bighten the excitement prevailing. When the news of the election flashed over the wires, its unexpected result awakened great excitement in the eastern section of the State. The cry of secession was raised, and the people of Virginia found themselves confronted with the most important question that had ever come up in the history of the State since the days of the Revolution. The east was pronounced in the action of secession it would take, and it remained to be seen what course of action the west would pursue.

The first meeting that was held to consider the great question by the people of the western part of the State, took place in Kingwood on the 12th of November. A small meeting, however was held about this time or prior to it, at Fellowsville, where John Heermans and others denounced secession, and the meeting unanimously resolved in favor of Virginia remaining in the Union.

On the afternoon of the 12th of November, the court that was in session at Kingwood adjourned, and the people from all parts of the county assembled in the court house. Men of all parties, impelled by a cause of common danger, came together. The partizans of Breckenridge, the followers of Douglas, the adherents of Bell, and the few supporters of Lincoln-forgetful of their political rivalry, met to express their views upon the great questions growing out of the late election. The Hon. Waitman T. Willey, the Hon. William G. Brown and others made speeches, in which they calmly and deliberately discussed these questions, and urged the people to take no action looking towards a separation of Virginia from the Union. There was no dissenting; men of all parties were in favor of the view presented by the speakers, and without a single negative vote a series of resolutions were passed, opposing secession and declaring that any action of Virginia looking toward secession from the Union would meet with the unqualified disapprobation of the peopla of Preston County. The people then dispersed, and carried the news of the meeting all over the county. The tidings of the resolute attitude of the people of Preston, went abroad throughout the western part of the State, and helped to encourage the citizens of other counties in calling similar meetings.

The closing days of the year drew on, each filled with some conflicting rumor concerning the state of the country. John Letcher, the Governor of the State, issued a proclamation calling the legislature to meet at Richmond, on the 7th of January of the incoming year. The sessions of the legislature were held biennially, and the winter of 1860–61 was a period of vacation.

This was the second time since the adoption of the constitution of 1851, that an extra session had been convoked. The proclamation called the legislature together for the purpose of considering the sale of the State's interest in the James River & Kanawha Canal Company to some French capitalists, and among other things, "to take into consideration the condition of public affairs, and determine calmly and wisely what action is necessary."

The legislature met on the 7th of January, 1861. Robert E. Cowan and John Scott were members of it for Preston. The Governor sent in his message upon the condition of the country, suggesting a course of action for Virginia to pursue. Commencing with the formation of the Federal Union, he reviewed the progress of the American people down to the crisis then existing. He considered the perpetuation of that Union now to be in imminent peril, which might have been averted by a conference of the Southern States. He recommended a general convention of all the States. He said that the North was trying to confine slavery to the States wherein it now existed, and to prevent its introduction into the Territories. He declared that the statutes passed in some of the Northern States, with the speeches made there, had incited raids on the border for the purpose of exciting insurrection among the slaves. He advised the Legislature to appoint commissioners to visit the legislatures of the States that had passed laws to prevent the carrying out of 10 the Fugitive Slave Law, and demand, in the name of Virginia, their repeal. He opposed the proposition for a call of a State convention to determine the position Virginia should take in the present crisis. He said: "The Union is now disrupted; let the North bear the blame. They have brought the sad and deplorable result upon the country, and the candid and honest men of the world will hold them responsible for the destruction of a government that has challenged the admiration and commanded the respect of the earth." He added that the will of Virginia would be the rule of his action, and that her destiny should be his. The remainder of the message was devoted to the discussion of local affairs and the more efficient organization of the militia.

Both houses passed resolutions for the purpose of making Virginia a mediator between the Federal Government and the seceding States, requesting the suspension of all aggressive movements until further negotiations for peace could be considered. These resolutions were afterwards amended by designating this period to be sixty days. The legislature, after seven days of animated discussion, passed a bill to call together a convention of the people of Virginia, to determine whether Virginia should dissolve her connection with the Federal Union or not, and whether any changes should be made in the organic law of the State. A substitute for the bill, offered in the House of Delegates, providing that a vote of the people should determine whether any convention should be called or not, was voted down by a large majority. This action was without precedent in the history of the State. No convention had ever assembled before until it had received the sanction of the people.

The election for delegates to this convention was to be held on the 4th day of February (1861), when one hundred and fifty-two members were to be chosen by the several counties and cities of the Commonwealth. The polls were to remain open for one day only, and the members chosen on that day were to meet on Wednesday, the 13th of February, at the Capitol in the City of Richmond, and proceed

to adopt such measures as they might deem expedient for the welfare of the Commonwealth. The news of the call of the convention when received in Preston, increased the excitement already existing. Meetings were held all over the county irrespective of party, upon the subject of selecting delegates to a county convention to nominate candidates for election as delegates to the State Convention. A meeting of the citizens of the Fifth District was held at Reedsville on the 18th, at which a resolution was adopted in favor of the Union, constitutional rights and the enforcement of the National laws. On the 23d a large number of citizens, irrespective of party, of the First District, assembled at Brandonville to select delegates to the county convention. rison Hagans, who presided over the great meeting at Kingwood on November 12, 1860, was called to the chair. series of stirring resolutions were passed in favor of Virginia remaining in the Union, deploring the sectional animosities existing between the people of the Union, and approving the course of Major Anderson at Charleston, South Carolina. On the 25th of January, a large number of the citizens of the Fifth and Sixth Districts met, and speeches were made by Major William B. Zinn and others, and resolutions were passed in favor of the Union and the Constitution. secretary, D. B. Jeffers, was instructed to send the proceedings of the meeting to the press for publication.

With each succeeding day the excitement was becoming more intense, and the people anxiously awaited the news to be flashed over the wires of the course of action being adopted by the different sections of the country upon the subject of secession.

Cowan and Scott, the members of the House of Delegates from Preston, sent back the following circular, which was printed and sent all over the county:

Fellow-Citizens of the County of Preston:

"In the present distracted condition of public affairs, we deem it due to you and just to ourselves, to give you a history of the action of the Legislature at its present session,

and the course we have pursued as your Representatives. Soon after the convening of the House of Delegates, a committee was appointed to report a bill calling a State Convention. After the bill was reported, upon consultation, we found that it did not accord with our views, in this: It did not provide that the people of Virginia should, in their sovereign capacity, be consulted, or allowed in any form to review the action of the Convention, and indicate their wishes and opinions as to what should be the action of such Convention. The bill being in the shape referred to, we were opposed to it. Such being the case, we voted for an amendment, which provided that the question of 'Convention, or no Convention,' should be first submitted to the people, believing that the call of a convention by the General Assembly would be wholly inoperative and void, except through the mere acquiescence of the people. On this amendment, we are sorry to say, we were defeated. An amendment was then proposed, providing that at the same time that the people voted for Delegates, they should vote upon the question, 'whether the action of the Convention should be submitted to the people for ratification or rejection.' Upon this amendment we had a hard struggle, and finally succeeded in having it incorporated in the bill. In this shape the bill has just passed the House of Delegates by a unanimous vote. The bill as passed in the House leaves the Convention wholly unrestricted, opening the whole question, not only of Federal relations, but those other questions, of such vital consequence to Western Virginia, of Representation and Taxation.

"It now remains for you to select two of your wisest and best men, without reference to party, as your Delegates in said Convention. Do this and we may not only hope for a settlement of our difficulties with the North, the preservation and perpetuation of our institutions and the Union of the States, but also for the redress of the many grievances under which Western Virginia has for so long a time suffered and complained. We of course can not forsee the

fate of the Convention bill in the Senate, but take occasion here to say that we will oppose to the death every proposition which denies your right to pass upon the action of the Convention, whatever it may be, either to ratify or reject the same, as your judgement may dictate. We deem it scarely necessary to urge you to give a unanimous vote to have the action of the Convention submitted to the people. This, we believe, is a principle which you will never surrender to any body of men, however intelligent or wise or prudent they may be.

"In conclusion, Fellow Citizens, we assure you that we have acted according to the dictates of our best judgement, and will deem ourselves amply rewarded should our action meet your approval, and merit the confidence you have so generously reposed in us.

"Your obedient servants,

"R. E. COWAN.
"JOHN SCOTT."

On Friday, the 25th of January, a large number of the citizens of Kingwood and vicinity met at the Court-house, and erected a beautiful pole 105 feet high. Upon a streamer at the top of the pole, in large letters, was the word "UNION."

On the next day, Saturday, the 26th, people gathered in from all parts of the county, to attend the county convention. A meeting was held in the Court-house previous to the hour set for the assembly of the convention. The call for this meeting was prepared, and circulated over such parts of the county as could be reached, the day before. The Union women of Kingwood prepared a beautiful flag, and presented it to the meeting, accompanied by the following address:

"To the Fathers, Husbands, Brothers and Sons of Preston: The ladies of Kingwood are influenced by circumstances heretofore unknown to American history, to give some suitable expression of their abiding love for their Country. Our hearts have prompted us to present to you the emblem of our National Union, with all its stripes and

every star, the flag of our whole country—that has waved in triumph in every port and on every shore. We present it to you with the prayer that fraternal feeling, good will and faith will be restored, and that the glorious legacy left us by our fathers may not be forfeited; and that no rash act may deprive our Country of her glory, so dearly won and fondly cherished. To the brave hearts and strong arms of our Country we entrust this sacred ensign. On your might we now rely for the defense of our Country's flag."

In reply, John J. Brown, on behalf of the Union men of the county, in accepting the flag from the women, said:

"My Countrymen: We have met to-day to do homage to the sentiment of patriotism, and if love to God and love to our neighbor be the fulfilling of the law, certainly love for our country can not be idolatry. Love of country is a universal sentiment, and is sometimes roused to the wildest enthusiasm by apparently the most trivial causes. In times past. the Switzer's song of home, echoing along the glaciers of the Alps, has called a nation of freeman to arms; and the mercenary ranks of almost every army in Europe have been deserted by the influence of the same soul-stirring song. The Marsellaise has time and again revolutionized France, and today it is like a magazine beneath the throne of the imperial Napoleon. 'Hail Columbia' and 'Yankee Doodle' gave victory to the arms of Washington, and the smoke of battle and the shout of triumph at New Orleans rose amid their soul-inspirring strains. But while our ears hear, and our hearts drink the eloquence of song; when our eyes, kindled with the fire of patriotism, catch our country's flag streaming in the sunlight, then let the loud shout go up, as it did from the shores of the Chesapeake in 1814—

> Our flag is there— Our flag is there— Behold its glorious stripes and stars!

"I now desire to perform one of the most pleasing acts of my whole life. Your mothers and wives and sisters have handed to me 'The glorious ensign of our Republic,' with 'not a stripe erased or polluted, and not a single star obscured'—wrought by their own patriotic hands—and desire me to present it in their name, to you, my fellow countrymen of Preston County, and to say to you, 'It is our country's flag—the emblem of our National Union.' I can find no more suitable response to the patriotic Union-loving ladies, than by giving utterance to the beautiful sentiment of the patriot poet of our own country:

'A union of lakes and a union of lands,
A union of States none can sever,
A union of hearts and a union of hands,
And the flag of our Union forever.'

"It is not the flag of Virginia, nor of Pennsylvania, nor of Massachusetts, nor of South Carolina: It is the flag of our country—the flag of our Union; and there are clustering around it ten thousand hallowed associations and memories. It is the flag to which the gallant Lawrence turned his eyes in death and exclaimed 'Don't give up the ship!' It is the flag that Perry grasped from the prow of his sinking vessel, and through the deadly broadsides of the enemy, bore aloft to victory. It is the flag our gallant countrymen unfurled, in triumph over the palaces of the Montezumas.

"Go, my countrymen. Baptize it in the morning sunbeams, and give it to the breeze; and if the time shall ever come, (which God forbid!) when it must be bathed in blood, these mothers and wives and sisters and daughters, whose gift it is, bid me say to you, their fathers and husbands and brothers and sons—Go to the tented-field, stand by this flag, fight for your country under your country's banner, and die in its defense, if death shall come, like the gallant Jasper enshrouded in its folds."

After this meeting the county convention met for the purpose of nominating two candidates to represent the county in the State Convention.

On motion, Colonel W. B. Crane was appointed chairman, and H. C. Hagans Secretary. The chairman, on motion, ap-

pointed the following committee on credentials: William McKee, S. W. Snider, Thomas Elliott, Summers McCrum, John M. Jeffers, J. S. Hamilton, T. Gregg, A. L. Hooton, Jonas Wolf and W. H. Grimes; and as the committee of basis of representation, he named James Hill, David Graham, W. T. Kelley, Isaac Startzman. G. Hidelberger, G. G. Murdock, John Howard, Daniel M. Gappin, F. M. Purinton, and Charles Bishoff. After the report of these committees, the convention proceeded to nominate candidates to represent the county in the State Convention, which resulted in the unanimous election of the Hon. William G. Brown and James C. McGrew, Esq. A motion was then made and carried, requesting the candidates to express their views on the questions now agitating the country; to which they responded in able and eloquent speeches, in favor of the Union, and equal rights in taxation and representation.

On the same day, about one hundred and fifty citizens of the German Settlement met, and, electing Charles Hooton chairman, and George H. Shaffer secretary, the meeting passed resolutions disapproving the course of the extreme Southern States, deprecating the doctrine of secession, and approving of the compromise as set forth in the Crittenden Resolutions. The meeting then adjourned with three cheers for the Union.

On the 30th, a meeting was held at Gladesville school-house by citizens of the Fifth and Sixth Districts. M. Haney was elected president, Levi Springer and Jabez Brown, vice-presidents, and William Squires secretary. Speeches were made in favor of the Union, and resolutions adopted against secession.

On the 31st, a large and enthusiastic Union meeting was held in the Pleasant Valley Church, in the Fifth District. David C. Miles, was elected president, John Orr and James H. Carroll, vice presidents, and A. A. Vandervert and D. B. Jeffers secretaries. John J. Brown delivered an address on the state of the Union. A patriotic song was sung, and resolutions were adopted in favor of the Union, and urging, that

a compromise by conciliation be effected. The women present handed in a resolution, expressing attachment to the country, devotion to its flag and the prayer that the Union might be preserved and perpetuated; and that its unsullied banner might forever wave, and remain its shield and its glory; and heartily according to those who are laboring for the preservation of the Union and peace, their best wishes and sympathies. After several short speeches, the meeting adjourned. The three weeks had passed that were allowed the people for a canvass to elect members to the Convention and settle upon their action in regard to giving the Convention unlimited power of decision on the subjects to come before it. The campaign, though brief, in excitement equaled, if it did not surpass, any other ever known in the political history of the State. Men were wonderfully stirred by the action of the Southern States, and feeling that Virginia might soon be called upon to take action in an impending struggle, realized the importance of their State taking the right course in that struggle, if come it must.

Wednesday, the 4th of February, came, and the citizens, unmindful of the inclement weather of winter or the rough condition of roads, turned out almost in masses to the polls, and by a unanimous vote elected Messrs. Brown and McGrew as delegates to the Richmond Convention.

This Convention assembled, as required by law, on Wednesday, the 13th of February, 1861, at the Capitol in the City of Richmond, and was spoken of during its sessions as the "People's Convention." Upon its final action much of good or evil depended to the State and the whole country. The first four days were spent in organizing the Convention. The Hon. John Janney, of Loudon County, was elected President. He was a man whose venerable appearance commanded respect. On taking the chair, he made a strong Union speech, but asserted that Virginia would demand her rights as a condition of remaining in the Union. On Monday, the 17th, the Hon. Fulton Anderson, a commissioner from Mississippi, and the Hon. Henry L. Benning, a Commissioner

from Georgia, were introduced, and addressed the Convention; giving the reasons that they said had impelled their respective States to withdraw from the Federal Union, and inviting Virginia to co-operate with them and the other seceded States in forming a Southern Confederacy. On Tuesday, the 18th, the ordinary business of the Convention was suspended, and the Hon. John S. Preston, commissioner from the Government of South Carolina to the Governor and the Convention of the people of Virginia, was introduced, and announced to the Convention that the object of his mission was to communicate to the people of Virginia the causes which had impelled the people of South Carolina to withdraw from the United States, resume the powers hitherto granted by them to the Government of the United States of America, and to respectfully invite their co-operation in the formation of a Southern Confederacy. South Carolina had well selected the advocate of her cause. Preston's speech before the Convention was a splendid effort of forensic eloquence. He discussed the rights of the States prior to the Federal Constitution, which he claimed was adopted by the States in their sovereign capacity, and contained no word or phrase in it capable of being construed into any other meaning. He asserted that, adopted by the States in their sovereign capacity, there could be no higher tribunal to decide upon their violation of this compact, if necessity demanded it as a last resort. The people of South Carolina assumed that their sovereignty had never been surrendered in the Federal compact, and that as a contracting power to the Federal Form of Government, they had the right to withdraw whenever the contract was violated so as to endanger their liberties and safety. That time had now arrived.

He spoke of the tariff and said: "They (the North), therefore, invented a system of duties, partial and discriminating, by which the whole burden of the revenue fell upon those who produced the articles of export which purchased the articles of import, and which articles of import were con-

sumed mainly, or to a great extent, by those who produced the exports.

"They (the Northern people) have succeeded, by large majorities in all the non-slaveholding States, in placing the entire executive power of the Federal Government in the hands of those who are pledged, by their obligations to God, by their obligations to the social institutions of man, by their obligation of self-preservation, to place the institution of slavery in a course of certain and final extinction.

"That is, twenty millions of people, holding one of the strongest governments on earth, are impelled, by a perfect recognition of the most sacred and powerful obligations which fall upon man, to exterminate the vital interests of eight millions of people, bound to them by contiguity of territory, and the closest political relation. In other words, the decree inaugurated on the 6th of November was the annihilation of the people of the Southern States. Now, gentlemen, the people of South Carolina, being a portion of those who come within the ban of this decree, had only to ask themselves, Is existence worth a struggle? Their answer is given in the ordinance (of secession) I have had the honor to submit to you.

"We are very small—very weak—but if that fire-storm with which we are threatened should fall upon us and consume us, hereafter the pilgrim of liberty, perhaps from this State, who may be searching beneath the ruins of Charleston, will find the skeleton of our sentinel standing at our sea gate."

He appealed to Virginia, his native State, to come and take her place in the front ranks in a glorious future, saying: "Mr. President, I ask Virginia to come in the majesty of her august history, and the power of her courage and strength, and command this transcendent future." He then said: "I believe the question to be decided by you, gentlemen, is whether Virginia, like the trembling Egyptian, will skulk for shelter beneath the crumbling fragments of a past greatness, to dwell under the scourge of a haughty, but mean task-

master, or whether she will step forth and with one voice hush the storm of war, and keep the ancient glory of her name." The Convention, by vote, requested copies of the address, and ordered the publication of three thousand and forty for distribution among the members. After the departure of the Commissioners, the Convention was employed for several days in discussing Federal relations. A great many resolutions were offered and some exciting speeches made. These resolutions went to the committee of Federal relations; and there it was that the great battle was to be fought. It sat with closed doors, and among its twenty-one members were some of the ablest minds of Virginia. Waitman T. Willey of Monongalia, and Samuel Price, once a resident of Preston, were members of this memorable committee.

Robert E. Cowan, member of the House of Delegates, and James C. McGrew, member of the Convention, from time to time wrote letters back to the Kingwood *Chronicle*, informing the people of Preston of the action of their respective bodies at the State capitol.

The people of Preston awaited with impatience the arrival of every mail for news of the condition of the country.

On the 4th of March, W. T. Willey, of Monongalia, made a speech, in which he said: "Let us Mr. President, look at the evils that must result from secession. The first, in my opinion, would be that our country would not only be divided into a Northern Confederacy and a Southern Confederacy, but, sooner or later, it would be divided into sundry petty Confederacies. We would have a Central Confederacy, a Confederacy of the States of the Mississippi Valley, a Pacific Confederacy, a Western Confederacy, an Eastern Confederacy, a Northern and a Southern Confederacy. And what the result of all this would be, I leave to the decision of history, recorded on many a mournful page of human story. It may be read in the dissolution of Greece. It is chronicled in the disintegration and downfall of the Roman Empire. written in characters of blood, hardly yet dry, drawn from the veins of the compatriots of Garabaldi, struggling to regain the blessings and power of the ancient Italian unity." He then spoke at length upon the consequences that would inevitably follow a dismemberment of the Union. ferred to the effect secession would have upon Western and Northwestern Virginia, saying: "Secession, therefore, implies a necessity of putting this State upon a war footing. Look at our Western border—two hundred and fifty or perhaps three hundred miles of hostile border, upon which lies one of the most powerful States of the Union-Ohio. And then we go back by Hancook, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Wetzel, Monongalia and Preston, which exhibit one hundred and fifty or two hundred miles more of hostile border, upon which lies the most powerful State in the Union-the great State of Pennsylvania. Look how we are thus fixed-stuck in like a wedge between the enemy and the Red Sea-four hundred and fifty miles of hostile borders surrounding us. Between us and you there is the almost impassable barrier of the Allegheny mountains; and you, gentlemen of Eastern Virginia, have not seen proper to give us enough legislative aid to transpierce these mountains, that we might have direct communication with you. How would we stand in a Southern Confederacy? Why, sir, we would be swept by the enemy from the face of the earth before the news of an attack could reach our eastern friends. You see we shall be the weakest point of a Southern Confederacy, and, therefore, the point of attack. Will you make Northwestern Virginia the Flanders of America, and convert our smiling valleys into the slaughter pens of as brave and loyal a people as dwell in the 'Old Dominion ?",

On the 9th of March, a partial majority report was made to the Convention by the committee on Federal relations. It consisted of fourteen resolutions: The first, second and third were devoted to the consideration of efforts for an amicable settlement of State and National troubles, the soverignty of the States, and deprecation of the formation of sectional or geographical parties, whose tendencies were to the overthrow of the Government. The fourth declared that

the Territories of the Union were equally the property of all the States. The fifth declared that the forts and arsenals within the limits of any State were not intended to be used against that State in the event of civil war. The sixth and seventh proposed measures for the peaceable adjustment of existing troubles The eighth asserted the right of a State to secede, and declared the people of Virginia would never consent to its forcible subjugation by Federal authority. The ninth recognized the right of the Gulf States to secede. The tenth declared that the people of Virginia desired the National Government to deal in a peaceable manner with these States, even to recognizing their independence. eleventh treated of amendments to be submitted to the people of all the States. The thirteenth asked for no aggressive operations, while peace proceedings were pending, by either the Federal government or the Confederate States. The fourteenth suggested a conference of the border slave States.

The report of these resolutions opened the battle in the Convention between the parties. The Convention was composed of the ablest talent of the State—eminent lawyers, brilliant orators and able statesmen, including an ex-President of the United States, and an ex-Governor of Virginia in its numbers. Eighty-five of its members were adherents of Bell, thirty-five were supporters of Douglas, and its remaining thirty-two were followers of Breckenridge.

Every member was at his post, and the discussions were carried on with an animation never surpassed in the history of the State. The floor of the Convention was a great battle-field upon which giant intellects struggled for the mastery. The struggle, heretofore, for political supremacy between the eastern and western sections of the State, was lost in a struggle of National importance, whose result, beside affecting the future of the State, would influence the destiny of the Nation.

If Virginia elected to stay in the Union, the new formed Southern Confederacy would be confined to narrow limits on the sea-board. If she cast in her fortunes with the Gulf States, her action would influence North Carolina, Tennessee and Arkansas to join the Confederate States of America. The leaders of the East were the champions of the Secession party, and the Leaders of the West were the champions of the Union party. The greatest orators and ablest intellects of the East plead for secession. The most gifted minds and ablest statesmen of the West plead for the Union. Day after day, this great battle was carried on by the two parties to gain supremacy. On the 4th of April, the test was made on the Sixth resolution, for which a substitute was offered, "That an ordinance of secession from the Federal Union should be submitted to the people of Virginia in the election to take place in May." Forty-five voted for it and eightynine against it.

The Union party regarded this as a triumph against direct secession, but their opponents were not idle and had sent out, a few days before this vote was taken, a circular calling upon the parties to whom it was sent in different parts of the State, to be in Richmond on the 16th day of April, to consult with their friends of southern rights as to what course Virginia should pursue. The effects of this policy, whether it was intended or not, gathered a crowd at Richmond, whose course could not be governed by reason. The galleries and lobbies of the hall were filled with this wild and excited throng, who hissed and jeered when the members of the Union party were speaking, and cheered when the members of the opposition party were on the floor.

This uncontrollable throng augmented its numbers every day, and filling the streets at night with bands of music at their heads, calling out the Southern men of prominence in the city, applauded their speeches, however extreme, or their views, however rash.

On the morning of the 12th of April, Beauregard fired on the walls of Fort Sumpter. The roar of his cannon shattered all hopes of peace and opened the greatest civil war that ever occurred in the New World.

When the news came over the wires to Richmond, that the Confederate batteries circling Fort Sumter were raining shot and shell on its devoted walls, the wildest excitement The wild throng on the streets swelled with increasing numbers; business closed, and almost the whole populace were on the streets. The National flag was torn from the dome of the Capitol and trampled in the street. Bonfires were kindled, the public squares were brilliantly illuminated, with bands playing and crowds cheering. people were wild with excitement. Everywhere the Confederate banner was raised. A great assemblage gathered in a large hall, with closed doors. The Convention went into secret session. The Union majority seen their number, under the pressure of events, rapidly decreasing, and the Confederate minority swelling up toward controling numbers. They seen a storm gathering around them that might break any hour with terrific force. Entreaty, pursuasion and exhortation all failed to stay the tide of desertion from their The Honorable William G. Brown, of Preston, was hissed while making an eloquent speech in favor of the Union and predicting a bloody and terrible war if Virginia seceded.

Scenes beyond power of description were taking place in Richmond. The Union members were insulted on the streets in daytime, and at night crowds gathered in front of their stopping places with oaths and threats of personal violence, and would leave ropes hanging on trees and lamp-posts close to their windows. These wild and maddened throngs were almost frenzied with the excitement of a coming war, whose breaking thunders were rolling up from Charleston harbor, and the great wonder is that any restraining influence held them back from carrying out their threats of violence against the Union members of the Convention, especially those from Northwestern Virginia.

One night they came several hundred strong, with torches, drums and fifes, and gathered in front of Mrs. Thornton's, at the corner of Franklin and Fourshee streets, where the HonWilliam G. Brown, James C. McGrew and John S. Carlisle were stopping. With oaths and yells and vile epithets they hung their ropes upon the branches of a tree standing by the house, but did not attempt an entrance into the building. They finally took down their ropes, and waving their secession flags, marched away to the tune of "Dixie" played by their band.

Fort Sumter fell and Richmond was wild over the news. Peaceable secession was no longer discussed; armed revolution was urged. The talk upon the streets was marching armies and great battles, to gain Southern independence. The Convention met on the 16th, and held a stormy session. The Confederate side had not received sufficient accessions to its ranks to hazard a vote yet upon an ordinance of secession.

On the morning of the 17th of April, 1861, the Convention met, and ex-Governor Henry A. Wise, rising in his seat, drew a large Virginia horse-pistol from his bosom, and, laying it before him, proceeded in a shrill and piercing tone of voice to urge the secession of Virginia from the Union. the conclusion of his impassioned address, he drew forth his watch, and "with glaring eyes and bated breath' said, that, at such an hour, the troops of Virginia had occupied Harper's Ferry and its armory; at another hour, Virginia soldiers had seized the Federal Navy-yard at Norfolk. excitement now was intense, a crisis had come, decisive action was about to be taken: the secession leaders, while the effect produced by Wise's speech was fresh, were organizing to press the question of secession upon the Convention. The leaders of the Union party, unmoved by all the great pressure brought to bear upon them, stood firm; but the rank and file of the party, made up of members from the West, with a fair sprinkling from the East, could not be held solid by their leaders. The meeting of a great assemblage with closed doors but a short distance away, the wild throngs on the streets, the soldiers of a part of the State in motion, and the wonderful impassioned speech of Wise, all

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combined, was more than they could resist—the current was too strong for them, the excitement too intense—and many went over to the Secession party. An excited discussion was carried on amid great confusion, and, finally, the Convention came to a vote upon "an Ordinance to repeal the ratification of the Constitution of the United States of America, by the State of Virginia, and to resume all the rights and powers granted under said Constitution." The Union party cast fifty-one votes against it, and the Secession party cast eighty-one votes for it.

The ordinance of secession, as thus passed, read as follows: "The people of Virginia, in their ratification of the Constitution of the United States of America, adopted by them in convention on the twenty fifth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, having declared that the powers granted under the said constitution were derived from the people of the United States, and might be resumed whensoever the same should be perverted to their injury and oppression; and the Federal Government having perverted said powers, not only to the injury of the people of Virginia, but to the oppression of the Southern slave-holding States: Now, therefore, we, the people of Virginia, do declare and ordain, that the ordinance adopted by the people of this State in convention on the twenty-fifth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven and eighty-eight, whereby the Constitution of the United States of America was ratified, and all acts of the General Assembly of this State ratifying or adopting amendments to said Constitution, are hereby repealed and abrogated; that the union between the State of Virginia and the other States under the Constitution aforesaid is hereby dissolved, and that the State of Virginia is in the full possession and exercise of all the rights of sovereignty which belong and appertain to a free and independent State.

"And they do further declare, that said Constitution of the United States of America is no longer binding upon any of the citizens of this State. This ordinance shall take effect and be an act of this day, when ratified by a majority of the votes of the people of this State, cast at a poll to be taken thereon on the fourth Thursday in May next, in pursuance of a schedule hereafter to be enacted."

The Convention then passed a schedule in which it was declared "that the election for members of Congress for this State to the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, required by law to be held on the fourth Thursday in May next, is hereby suspended and prohibited, until otherwise ordained by this Convention."

Among the leaders of the Union party were Messrs. Brown and McGrew, of Preston, who had boldly spoken against secession from the commencement of the session till the passage of the ordinance. Defiantly voting against the measure, their opposition to it did not cease with its passage, but in connection with Willey, Carlisle and others, on the next day, declared that Western Virginia would never support it. The language of the Union leaders was declared treasonable, and, in addition to being insulted on the streets, they were greeted with threats of personal violence.

The citizens of Morgantown, on the night of the 17th of April, 1861, held a meeting, and in the name of Monongalia County entered their solemn protest against the secession of Virginia from the Federal Government, and declared that, if secession was carried out by the East, the western part of the State would repudiate the action, would dissolve all its civil and political connection with the east, and remain under the flag of the Union.

When the news was received in Preston County, that Fort Sumter had surrendered, great excitement prevailed; and when, on this news, came the rumor that the State Convention had passed an ordinance of secession, the citizens felt that a bloody war was about to begin. After the shock experienced by the reception of the news, the cry went up all over the county, to discard all former political parties, to bury all old political animosities, and to unite and vote down

the ordinance of secession. A meeting of the citizens of Kingwood and vicinity was held in front of the Court-house on Saturday morning, April 20th. The Stars and Stripes were run up, and were greeted by "Hail Columbia," played by the Morgantown band, who were present. Union speeches were made and secession denounced. The Kingwood Chronicle appeared with the motto, "The Union, right or wrong—we'll defend her when right; when wrong, we'll right her," at her masthead. A stirring editorial appealed to the people of the county to oppose secession, and several letters from different parts of the county followed, calling for a county meeting to be held at the Court-house, on the 13th day of May, it being the first day of the county court, to denounce secession and organize in favor of the Union.

Turning again to the State Convention, we find it in the hands of the secessionists. On the afternoon of Saturday, April 20th, an arrangement was made by some of the Union leaders from Northwestern Virginia, to assemble at the Powhatan Hotel, and consult upon what was best for them to do under the circumstances. Their every move was observed by their opponents, and singly and by couples they dropped into the hotel, and repaired to a bed-room. Some eighteen or twenty members thus assembled. The venerable General John J. Jackson, of Wood County, was elected chairman of the meeting.

He was so old and feeble that he lay on the bed while presiding. The arrangement for the meeting was hastily made, and it was impossible to notify all the strong Union members. Owing to this fact, Messrs. Brown and Willey were not present. James C. McGrew, of Preston, was one of the members present. They decided to resist the ordinance of secession. As they could do nothing in the Convention, now in the hands of a large and increasing secession majority, and as their lives were in danger every day, they concluded to withdraw quietly, return home to their constituents, call meetings of the people of Northwestern Virginia, and urge them to vote down the ordinance of secession.

This meeting was the *germ idea* that developed into the re-organization of the State government of Virginia, and ultimately into the division of Virginia, and the formation of the State of West Virginia. The members of this meeting dispersed from the hotel, in the same manner that they had gathered, and made preparations to leave the city. In this they were joined by Mr. Brown and Mr. Willey.

Getting out of the city was no easy task. It was reported that all trains were stopped on the usual route by rail from Richmond to Harper's Ferry. Eight of these members got passes, but had great difficulty in getting away. The Hon. William G. Brown, James C. McGrew, Waitman T. Willey and others repaired, on Sunday, April the 21st, to to the Branch Street railroad station, where the agent at first refused to take their tickets. Finally, however, he gave them tickets to Alexandria, opposite Washington City. All trains Northward from Alexandria had ceased running, and when Messrs. Brown and McGrew arrived in Alexandria, they found almost all intercourse cut off with the North. Mr. Brown's trunk could not be found, and Mr. McGrew volunteered to remain and search for it. At the hotel where they were stopping, a rabble congregated, and several of its leaders went in, and going up to the hotel register, commenced reading the names of those stopping. They would, every now and then, read aloud some one's name and ask the clerk how that man was. When they read Willey's name, Mr. McGrew, who was standing near the clerk's desk, a spectator of their performance, responded that he was all right. and the crowd, using vile oaths, said he had better be or they would put him in the Potomac. One suggested that they throw all of them in the river. They discussed this method of disposing of the whole party for some time, but finally left without offering any violence. Mr. McGrew received permission to look for the trunk from an officer of the road, and remained behind.

The trunk arrived, and Mr. McGrew made arrangements for departure. The road was now closed to the North. Alex-

andria was now alive with secessionists, and it was any thing but comfortable for a Unionist. He engaged a team to be at the hotel, at 2 o'clock in the morning, to take him across the Potomac to Washington City, and thence by a circuitous route he proposed to reach home. At 2 o'clock. the team arrived, driven by a colored boy. Mr. McGrew realized the danger of attempting to leave Alexandria with a negro driver. There were guards, most likely, and if so, they would hardly suffer a stranger to pass, especially with a negro. He sent for Fawcett, the owner of the team, and informed him that it would be difficult to get to Washington with the boy as a driver. After some little parley, Mr. McGrew got Fawcett to consent to drive the team, and they started. A short distance, and Mr. McGrew's apprehension of an armed guard was confirmed. Two sentries halted the team, but, knowing Fawcett, they accepted his story of his only going to drive to Washington and back, and allowed him to pass. When they came to the bridge, they found a battery of artillery. The officer in charge, after closely questioning Mr. McGrew, allowed him to pass over. Leaving Washington City, Mr. McGrew proceeded home over the Baltimore & Ohio railway. At Harper's Ferry, the train stopped, and he stepped out upon the platform, and found a regiment of Confederate troops. An officer stepped up and enquired if he was not a member of the Richmond Convention. Mr. McGrew, though not knowing what would come of it, boldly answered that he was. The officer then stepped up closer, and, whispering in his ear, said, "When you go back to Richmond, send some one here to take command of these troops." Mr. McGrew said he would, and, leaving the officer, entered the cars, and the train in a moment moved on westward, leaving the Confederate, who seemed to be a subordinate officer, to wait for an officer from Richmond to take command of the troops.

The delegates from Northwestern Virginia were fortunate in making their escape, fraught as it was with perils. A few days later, and it would have been impossible to have left Richmond, and most likely, all of them would have been violently dealt with by the frenzied crowds; or, if escaping that fate, would have been arrested as traitors, and imprisoned.

When the delegates from Northwestern Virginia returned home and reported the state of affairs at Richmond, meetings were held in all the northwestern counties, condemning the ordinance of secession, and declaring it the duty of Western Virginia to adopt such measures as should result in a division of the State. The first step toward a combined movement to secure this result was taken at a meeting held under the auspices of the Hon. John S. Carlisle, at Clarksburg, Harrison County, on the 22d of April, 1861. About twelve hundred people were present. Resolutions were passed declaring that the secessionists were attempting without the consent of the people to transfer Virginia from its allegiance to the Federal Government to the so-called Confederate States, and having seized without authority the property of the Federal Government in Virginia, had inaugurated war, and therefore the meeting recommended to the people of Northwestern Virginia to appoint not less than five delegates of their wisest, best and discreetest men, in each county, to meet in convention in the city of Wheeling, on the 13th day of May, to determine on the proper action Northwestern Virginia should take in the present fearful emergency.

Public excitement was intense. Men neglected their usual vocations and assembled with arms in their hands, to discuss the situation. General confusion existed and society seemed to be in a state of disruption—a terrible reality seemed to dawn upon the minds of men, that there was no law. On every hand was heard the cry of opposition to secession, and armed bands of men gathered, and, placing the National flag at their head, went from place to place, shouting death to secessionists. Those who were called secessionists, and believed that duty to the State required that its citizens should yield obedience to its commands and fight its battles, prudently remained quiet. Many of them were ar-

rested by these military bands, roughly treated and compelled upon fear of their lives to take the oath of allegiance to the Constitution of the United States. It was a time of peril, and men looked forward to the future with grave apprehension. They beheld a civil war, of immense proportions, looming up, in which the noblest blood of the land would be shed.

In the latter part of April, a report came to Kingwood that Governor Letcher had sent a force, which was on its way, to seize the arms stored in the Court-house. On Sunday the news was carried to Masontown and Reedsville, and that evening a company of 71 foot and 30 horse gathered near Reedsville and took up its line of march for Kingwood, under the command of Captain Isaiah Kirk. They arrived at Kingwood about 3 o'clock on Monday morning, and having been joined by Jacob Cobun and an additional force, the whole body, under the direction of Captain Kirk, Jacob Cobun, D. B. Jeffers and others, surrounded the Courthouse and after posting pickets, entered and took out nearly 200 muskets that had been furnished by the State, and were kept in the Court-house for the use of the militia of the Securing the arms, they carried them off to prevent their falling into the hands of the party that report said Governor Letcher had sent to take them.

The Convention in Richmond, on the 25th day of April, passed "an ordinance for the adoption of the Constitution of the Provisional Government of the Confederate States of America," reading as follows: "We the delegates of the people of Virginia, in convention assembled, solemnly impressed with the perils which surround the Commonwealth, and appealing to the searcher of hearts for the rectitude of our intentions in assuming the grave responsibility of this act, do, by this ordinance, adopt and ratify the constitution of the provisional government of the Confederate States of America, ordained and established at Montgomery, Alabama, on the eighth day of February, eighteen hundred and sixtyone: provided, that this ordinance, shall cease to have any legal operation or effect, if the people of this commonwealth,

upon the vote directed to be taken on the ordinance of secession passed by this convention on the seventeenth of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, shall reject the same." The convention, soon after this, adjourned to meet after the people had voted on the ordinance of secession.

When the news of the Clarksburg meeting was received in Preston County, with its call for delegates to the Wheeling convention to be held on the 13th of May, 1861, the county convention of Preston called to meet on the same day, was immediately put on the 4th, and a second call issued to that effect, so delegates could be appointed in time to reach Wheeling by the 13th.

A meeting was held by the citizens of the Eighth District, on the 30th of April, Peter Zinn was elected president, Samuel Matlick vice-president, and M. L. Shaffer was appointed secretary. William Michael, Frank Heermans and C. H. Corbin were appointed to draft resolutions for the consideration of the meeting. They brought in a set of resolutions, which were adopted, condemning Virginia for her course of action in the matter of secession, censuring the Governor for his illegal proclamation prohibiting voting for Congressmen at the May election and pledging support to the cause of the Union. On the same day (the 30th), a large Union meeting was held at Gladesville, and on the first of May, Thornton J. Bonafield presided over a large Union meeting at the Bonafield School-house, which was ably addressed by James A. Brown and Thomas P. Adams.

Pursuant to the second call for a county convention in favor of the Union, a large and enthusiastic meeting was held at the Court-house, in Kingwood, on Saturday, the 4th day of May, 1861. Notwithstanding a disagreeable morning, people came from all parts of the county. About one o'clock p. m. a large delegation from the Fifth District on foot and horseback entered, headed by Captain Isaiah Kirk. They marched through the principal streets of the town with the National flag flying and a martial band playing patriotic airs. The vast crowd already collected, cheered

them as they passed from street to street, and many of the spectators and citizens fell in the ranks. The long column then marched to the Court-house, and Colonel Charles Hooton called the meeting, over six hundred in number, to order. The Rev. G. W. Arnold opened with prayer. Sam'l R. Trowbridge was elected president, William McKee and W. H. Grimes vice-presidents, W. B. Zinn and J. J. Brown were appointed secretaries. H. C. Hagans, Colonel Charles Hooton, William B. Zinn, John J. Brown and John A. Dille were appointed a committee, by the chair, to prepare business for the consideration of the meeting. In the absence of the committee, the Hon. William G. Brown and James C. addressed the meeting upon the state of the country. The committee on its return reported a set of twelve resolutions, which, being read one at a time and voted on, were all adopted without a dissenting voice in the large assemblage. The resolutions were as follows:

"Resolved, That we have always entertained the opinion and yet honestly believe that the Government of the United States as constructed by our fathers, was one of the best governments that was ever given to man, and ought not to be abandoned by the friends of civil and religious liberty for causes short of absolute necessity.

"Resolved, That, whilst we have not at all times been satisfied with the administration of the Federal Government, yet we never have nor do we now recognize any such necessity, and we pledge ourselves to use all honorable and peaceful measures to restore peace to our distracted country and to reconstruct our once happy Union.

"Resolved, That we are unalterably opposed to the ordinance of secession passed by the Virginia Convention, and that we will use all honorable and fair means at the ballot-box to defeat said ordinance.

"Resolved, That when we elected Delegates to the State Convention in February last, we never dreamed that the convention should have or exercise power to declare war, raise armies, appropriate money, set aside our election for representatives in Congress, or to elect for us delegates to the government of the Confederate States, or to do anything that would change our relations to the Federal Government without first giving the people the right at the polls to decide these great questions for themselves.

"Resolved, That if the manner of electing the first delegates to the Southern Congress is a fair foretaste of what the people who connected themselves with the new confederacy are to enjoy, it is discouraging in the extreme to the friends of free elections.

"Resolved, That we respond most heartly to the professions of friendship expressed by the people of our neighboring County of Fayette [Pa.] in the meeting lately held at Uniontown; that we have always looked upon the citizens of all the States, both North and South, as our fellow-countrymen, but with the people of Pennsylvania and the States northwest of the Ohio, we have been closely connected in trade and commerce, identified in interest, and, above all, allied by kindred and affection, and any interruptions of our friendly relations can never be brought about by any act of ours.

"Resolved, That the course of the metropolitan press, apparently sanctioned by the people of Richmond and many others during the sitting of the convention, toward the faithful and patriotic members of the northwestern counties of the State, has not done much to strengthen the ties that have so long bound us to our eastern brethren.

"Resolved, That there is not and never can be any identity of material interest between the western and eastern portions of the State of Virginia; that the people of the two sections are separated from each other by barriers erected by the God of nature himself, and which can not be removed by the hand of man; and that it is, therefore, impossible for them ever to become a homogeneous people—a people with like interests or pursuits, requiring for their prosperity and happiness the same laws and institutions.

"Resolved, That in consideration of the foregoing facts,

and the manifest determination of the people of Eastern Virginia to disrupt our connection with the Federal Union without our consent, and to unite the destinies of the State with a Southern Confederacy and thereby denationalize us, it is due from them to us that they unite with us in bringing about a division of the State on such terms and with such boundaries as may be just to all and will be most conducive to our internal tranquillity and the future prosperity of both sections.

"Resolved, That our true and faithful representatives in the Virginia State Convention, the Hon. William G. Brown and James C. McGrew, Esq., are deserving of the thanks of their constitutents, and that, whilst we return to them our thanks, we do not forget all those good and true men who earnestly labored with them in that body, for the maintennance of our rights and the preservation of the Union.

"Resolved, That, whereas it is contemplated by the counties of Northwestern Virginia to hold a convention in the city of Wheeling on the 13th inst., for the purpose of consulting and determining what course the Northwest should pursue in the present disturbed condition of the country, and in view of the holding of said convention, your committee would suggest that the meeting appoint four delegates from each district to attend said convention to represent the the people of this county therein.

"Resolved, That it be recommended to the people of this Congressional district, at the election on the 23d day of May, to vote for and elect a Delegate to a seat in the next Congress of the United States."

The following list of Delegates were appointed to the Wheeling Convention, to meet on the 13th of May:

District No. 1—H. C. Hagans, A. D. Hagans, Robert C. Crooks and Harrison Hagans.

District No. 2—David Graham, Solomon Miller, Jehu Jenkins and William Conner.

District No. 3—John Rodeheaver, William H. King, James W. Brown and William T. Kelley.

District No. 4—Charles Hooton, Summers McCrum, John Elsey and John W. Bishoff.

District No. 5—William B. Zinn, John M. Jeffers, Isaiah Kirk and Joseph Deberry.

District No. 6—Alexander Shaw, James A. Brown, William T. Brown, Jesse T. McGinnis and Reuben Morris.

District No. 7—William P. Fortney, D. A. Litzenger, John Howard, William E. Tutt and George H. Kidd.

District No. 8—James G. Campbell, Albert L. Hooton, O. Purinton and H. LeBosquet.

Eloquent speeches were then made by William B. Zinn, John A. Dille and James A. Brown, after which the meeting adjourned.

Union meetings were still held at many different points in the county. One assembled at Coal Hill, and boldly advanced the idea of the separation of Western Virginia from the eastern part of the State. E. E. Hall was president of this meeting, and M. D. Orr secretary.

On the 13th of May, 1861, delegates from all the counties of Northwestern Virginia assembled in the city of Wheeling. At eleven o'clock a. m., the delegates assembled at Washington Hall. It was an assemblage different from the general gatherings of conventions brought together by politicians and for ordinary political action. The faces of a class cf men were seen in this, that were always absent from the usual political conventions—men who never sought political preferment at the hands of the people—men who, awakened to the necessity of action by the crisis of the times, had come to the front to aid in devising measures for the best interests of Western Virginia. The meeting was called to order by Chester D. Hubbard, of Ohio County, upon whose motion William B. Zinn, of Preston, was called to the chair. George R. Latham was appointed temporary secretary, and the Rev. Peter T. Laishley, a delegate from Monongalia County, offered up prayer to the Deity for divine aid. In the afternoon, John W. Moss, of Wood County, was elected president. Twenty-six counties were represented.

A committee consisting of one member from each county represented, was appointed on State and Federal relations. Waitman T. Willey, of Monongalia, and Charles Hooton of Preston, were members of this committee.

On the second day the work of the convention began. was determined to adopt a plan of immediate action. The nature of that plan gave rise to a very exciting controversy. The convention divided into two parties. One—the radical, or revolutionary—advocated the organization of Western Virginia into a State by the convention; the other—the conservative, or constitutional—advocated that authorized resistance to the illegal action of the government of Virginia at Richmond be recommended by the convention to the people of Western Virginia. They held that, until the government of Virginia at Richmond declared the State out of the Union, Western Virginia had no right that would be recognized by the General Government, to elect delegates to constitute a government to represent the State of Virginia, to say nothing of the idea of forming a new State in violation of the mode prescribed in the Constitution of the United States. Revolutionary party was led by John S. Carlisle, and some of its supporters came to the city, at the heads of delegations with banners bearing the inscription, "New Virginia now or never." Waitman T. Willey was the able leader of the Constitutional party.

In the commencement of the contest the majority of the convention was with Carlisle. Old memories came up of the vast system of internal improvements built up by Eastern Virginia, and denial of sufficient appropriations for needed improvements in Western Virginia. Now, to these delegates seemed the opportune moment to carry into effect the long-cherished hope of separation from the eastern part of the State. At first, the delegates from Preston, with but a single exception, were with Carlisle. But after the discussion had waxed warm, and Willey had explained his views, they went solid with the conservative party.

The situation was perilous indeed. Northwestern Virginia

without organization, was powerless to offer effective resistance to secession. To organize against Letcher's government at Richmond (which was the legal government of the State, but acting illegally)—in what manner was it to be done so that it might rightfully and lawfully claim the support of the general government at Washington? This was the perplexing question. Both parties agreed that the future course of Northwestern Virginia should be that of organized resistance to secession, but they differed as to the mode.

On the third day, at night, the committee on State and Federal relations reported through its chairman, Campbell The report declared the ordinance of secession to be unconstitutional, null and void; that the prohibition of the election of Congressmen at the May election was a usurpation of power; that the placing of the military power of the State under the control of the president of the Confederate States was a violation of the Constitution of the State recommended the people to vote against secession, to vote for members of Congress of the United States; and, in the event of the ratification of the unconstitutional ordinance of secession by the people of the State, it further recommended the counties there represented, and any others disposed to co operate, to appoint, on the 4th day of June, 1861, delegates to a general convention to meet on the 11th of June. Each county was to appoint double the number of delegates to this convention that it was entitled to in the next House of Delegates; and the Senators and Delegates to be elected were to have seats in the convention. The report concluded with the view that Northwestern Virginia could lawfully and successfully appeal for a separation from the rest of the State, and form a government that would give effect to the wishes, views and interests of the people thereof. This report was adopted by the convention; there being but two dissenting voices in its five hundred members. The Hon, William G. Brown, of Preston, was called on, and he made an eloquent and powerful speech in favor of the Union, and of Western

Virginia acting constitutionally in organizing against the Government at Richmond. He said that if Western Virginia so acted, the general government at Washington would support her; that the Southern Confederacy, being in a minority, must eventually be conquered by the general government, which had for its support the North and the great Northwest; and that the conquest of the South by the general government was but a question of time. The "Star Spangled Banner" was sung by the whole assembly, numbering over a thousand persons, three cheers for the Union were given, and the convention adjourned.

During the session of the convention, a central committee was appointed to designate the place of meeting for the convention of June 11th. Its members were, John S. Carlisle, James S. Wheat, Chester D. Hubbard, Francis H. Pierpoint, Campbell Tarr, George R. Latham, Andrew Wilson, S. H. Woodward and James W. Paxton. After the convention adjourned, this committee met and designated Wheeling as the place for the convention of June 11th to hold its session, and issued an address to the people of Northwestern Virginia, urging them to oppose secession as the only means of saving themselves from civil war, and to send delegates to the June convention, which was to organize action. The address further requested the people to recollect the words of Howell Cobb, the president of the Montgomery Convention, who had said that the people of the Gulf States need entertain no fears of any fighting in their States, as the theater of war would be along the Ohio River and in Virginia; and to remember that Daniel Webster had declared, in 1851, that the inhabitants of that portion of Virginia between the Alleghany mountains and the Ohio and Kentucky borders, could not hope to remain a part of Virginia one day after Virginia had ceased to be a part of the United States.

War was now regarded as inevitable, and events transpiring indicated that its first operations would take place on the borders of Virginia. On the 21st of May, the Confederate government was removed to the City of Richmond.

The war inaugurated by the bombardment of Fort Sumter, was now about to open in Virginia between the General Government and the Southern Confederacy, and we come to chronicle the death of Bailey Brown, the first man killed in the Great Rebellion, and who was a native of Preston. It is generally supposed that Colonel Ellsworth, who was shot at Alexandria, was the first victim of the war. Such is not the fact. Bailey Brown was the first man killed by soldiers, and the following account of the affair, in which he was shot, is given by Major W. P. Cooper in a letter to the Philadelphia Times, in 1877, and verified to-day by his relatives and persons now living who saw his body the next day after he was killed.

Early in May, 1861, Governor Letcher and his council sent George A. Porterfield, with the rank of Colonel, into Northwestern Virginia, to organize the companies there being raised under the call for State troops. A company from Marion County, under the command of William P. Thompson, and two companies from Taylor County, one under command of John A. Robinson, and the other under G. W. Hansbrough, rendevoused at Fetterman, one mile and a half below Grafton, on the 20th of May, 1861. On the 22d, the Harrison Guards of Clarksburg, under the command of W. P. Cooper, joined them. The combined force marched that evening up to Grafton and back to Fetterman. In the meantime a "Union" company was formed at Grafton, and that night it marched down to the edge of Fetterman, where it halted about 9 o'clock, and sent two of its members, Bailey Brown and Daniel Wilson, forward to reconnoitre. went down the railroad until they came near the run at the eastern end of the town, where Daniel W. S. Knight and George Glenn, of Captain Robinson's company, were sta-Knight commanded them to halt. They continued to advance, and Knight repeated his command once or twice. Brown by this time was close to Knight, and, drawing his revolver, fired upon him, the ball passing through his ear. Knight, who was armed with an old-fashioned smooth-bore. musket, loaded with slugs, returned the shot, and one of the slugs struck Bailey Brown in the breast, passing through his heart, killing him instantly. His body was taken to the town hall, occupied by the Harrison Guards, and properly cared for by them. When the firing took place, Wilson ran back and Glenn fired after him, the ball striking the heel of his boot. Bailey Brown, as above stated, was a native of Preston County, and was brought up on a farm near Independence. He was a descendant of Thomas Brown, who came from Eastern Virginia in early days, to the western part of Preston, then a part of Monongalia County. Knight was a native of Stafford County, Virginia, and formerly had lived in Preston, and was acquainted with Brown.

On Thursday, the 23d of May, 1861, the vote was taken in Virginia upon the ordinance of secession. The vote in Preston stood: "For Ratification," 63; "For Rejection," 2256; majority against secession, 2193. On this day, Northwestern Virginia elected three members of Congress to the House of Representatives of the United States. One of the members was the Hon. William G. Brown, of Preston.

Shortly after the election, the Union forces advanced eastward into the State, from Wheeling and Parkersburg, and the Confederate forces fell back from Grafton to Phillippi, in Barbour, where they were surprised and barely escaped capture. They retreated to Rich Mountain and Laurel Mountain, whence they were afterwards driven by the forces of General McClellan; and thus ended their occupation of Northwestern Virginia.

On Monday, the 27th of May, a report came to Kingwood, that the Confederate forces, about fifteen hundred strong, at Grafton were breaking camp to march upon Kingwood and Morgantown, with the intention of arresting and hanging the Union leaders in these places. This news caused great excitement at Kingwood. The people of the place, not having any means of defense, thought it prudent that the threatened parties should leave the town and ascertain what means could be secured for the protection of Preston County.

With this view, some of the threatend parties left for Uniontown, Pennsylvania, and other points, on Monday night. On Tuesday, the 28th, General C. E. Swearingen, commander of the Uniontown regiment of Penasylvania militia, upon being informed by the flying citizens of Preston, of the threatened invasion of their county, despatched messengers through the mountains, calling upon his men to turn out, and by noon fifty-four men, armed with good rifles, were on their way to Brandonville; where upon their arrival, they were joined by some Maryland volunteers, and found the 104th regiment of Virginia militia assembled and under arms. On Thursday the news came that the Confederate forces had retreated, and the day was devoted to military training. A large number of people had gathered, and the most intense excitement prevailed. Several persons were arrested and obliged to take the oath of allegiance to the United States.

During this week, the 148th regiment of Virginia militia met to train, at Kingwood, where the great excitement over the expected Confederate raid had not yet subsided. The regiment proceeded from the training ground to a beautiful grove, about a half-mile east of Kingwood, and, forming a hollow square, several hundred men knelt down and with one voice took the eath of allegiance to the United States. It was an impressive scene—those kneeling ranks of men, with earnest faces and in a low but firm tone of voice, pledging their fealty to the Government of the United States—and one never to be forgotten by those who witnessed it.

When the Cenfederates fled to Philippi a letter was found from Governor Letcher to Colonel Porterfield, dated May, the 25th, in which Porterfield was directed to seize the arms sent to Wheeling by Secretary Cameron, and to "recover the State arms recently seized by the malcontents at Kingwood."

On the 4th of June, Preston County elected four delegates to the Wheeling convention, to be held on the 11th of the same month.

The delegates from all the Northwestern counties met at Washington Hall, in Wheeling, on the 11th of June, 1861.

The convention proceeded to organize by electing Arthur I. Boreman, of Wood County, president, and G. L. Cranmer, of Ohio County, secretary. The members present from Preston were Charles Hooton, William B. Zinn, W. B. Crane, John Howard, H. Hagans and John J. Brown. All the members of the convention took an oath to "support the Federal Constitution and the laws made in pursuance thereof, anything in the Constitution and laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding." The radical or revolutionary party had but few representatives, and their desire for the convention to organize a new State met with but little favor. The convention met for action, and it must either organize a new State or reorganize the old State. It proceeded to do the latter. A committee was appointed, consisting of thirteen members, to prepare and report business to the convention. Hagans, of Preston, was a member of this committee. This committee reported on the 13th of June "a Declaration of the people of Virginia," in which was stated the legal and constitutional principle upon which their proceedings to reorganize the State would be based, in the following language:

"The true purpose of all government is to promote the welfare and provide for the protection and security of the governed; and when any form or organization of government proves inadequate for, or subversive of, this purpose, it is right, it is the duty of the latter [the governed], to alter or abolish it. The Bill of Rights of Virginia, framed in 1776, reaffirmed in 1830, and again in 1851, expressly reserves this right to a majority of her people. The act of the General Assembly calling the convention which assembled in Richmond in February last without the previously expressed consent of such majority, was therefore a usurpation; and the convention thus called has not only abused the powers nominally intrusted to it, but with the connivance and active aid of the Executive, has usurped and exercised other powers, to the manifest injury of the people, which, if permited, will inevitably subject them to a military despotism."

The declaration then went on to state in detail the acts of the convention passed to the manifest injury of the people and tending to a military despotism, and concluded by saying that the delegates here assembled "do hereby, in the name and on behalf of the good people of Virginia, solemnly declare that the preservation of their dearest rights and liberties and their security in person and property, imperatively demand the reorganization of the government of the Commonwealth, and that all acts of said Convention and Executive, tending to separate this Commonwealth from the United States, or to levy and carry on war against them, are without authority and void; and that the offices of all who adhere to the said Convention and Executive, whether legislative, executive, or judicial, are vacated." It received the unanimous vote of the convention. There were some who thought that the true legal and constitutional principle was not apprehended in making the wrong and usurpation of the Richmond Convention to consist in the fact, that the legislature called the said convention without first taking the sense of the people, when the existing constitution of 1851 did not require a previous submission of the question to the people, and only provided for a vete of the people on the ratification or rejection of its final work; and that the legislature in calling the convention without submitting the question to the people violated no law, but only a time-honored custom, of submitting the call for such conventions to the voters. They claimed that the wrong of the Richmond Convention was in passing an ordinance in conflict with the constitution of the United States, and in endeavoring to carry it out, their acts became treasonable and void, and rendered the actors unqualified to administer any longer the State Government: that the legal right to reorganize and officer the existing State Government remained in the loyal people of Virginia. though a minority; that though the subsequent proceedings of the convention would undoubtedly be in substantial harmony with the correct theory, yet its grave error in stating the legal and constitutional principle on which its proceedings were

to rest, would give rise to much future misunderstanding and hesitancy as to the legitimacy of the reorganization of the old, and formation of a new, State, on the part of some of the Federal authorities and the Press.

The Declaration was made on the 17th by the convention, and on the 19th of June, it passed "an ordinance for the reorganization of the State Government;" and on the 20th, went into an election for officers, as provided by the first clause of the ordinance. The election resulted in the choice of Francis H. Pierpoint, of Marion, for Governor, and Daniel Polsley, of Mason, for Lieutenant-Governor. A few days, afterward the convention chose James S. Wheat, of Ohio, for Attorney-General, and selected Peter G. Van Winkle. Daniel Lamb, William Lazier, of Monongalia, William A. Harrison and S. T. Paxton, as members of the Governor's council. The other executive offices were subsequently filled by electing L. A. Hagans, of Preston, Secretary of State; Campbell Tarr, Treasurer; Samuel Crane, Auditor of Public Accounts, and H. J. Samuels, Adjutant-General. The convention convoked a legislature to meet at Wheeling, composed of the delegates elected the May before. On the 25th of June the convention adjourned to the 6th of August, 1861.

The month of June, 1861, passed with not much of unusual interest happening in Preston. On Sunday evening, the 9th, about 40 men, under command of Captain Miller, were detailed from the forces stationed at Rowlesburg, to visit St. George, the county-seat of Tucker, for the purpose of capturing a Confederate flag, which was reported to be floating over the Court-house at that place. They were accompanied by William Hall, of Rowlesburg, as guide. After a whole night's march through the dense forest along Cheat River, they arrived at early dawn on Monday morning, at St. George. Several persons were arrested and held as prisoners until they took the oath of allegiance to the United States. Two Confederate flags were found in the possession of the citizens, and taken. Captain Miller, finding everybody peaceably inclined, and having captured the flag for which

he was sent, left St. George and marched back to Rowlesburg. His approach to camp at that place, on Monday evening, was announced by special messenger, and the troops marched out to meet the returning detachment, which they found drawn up in line, with their Captain and guide in front, on horseback, each carrying a Confederate flag—one surmounted with a live rattlesnake, which had been captured on the mountains, and the other with a wild-cat skin.

Recruiting for the Union army was very successfully prosecuted in Preston County during June. On Monday, the 22d, Captain Isaiah Kirk's company of Union volunteers paraded in front of the Pleasant Valley church, near Masontown. From the steps in front of the church the ladies presented them with a beautiful flag, through Miss Mattie W. Miles, who, in the name of the ladies, read the following address:

"Fathers, Husbands, Brothers and Sons: 'The sound of war is in the camp,' and you are hastening at your country's call. We want you to bear with you a token of our patriotism. And as the representative of my sisters, I present you the ensign of our glorious liberty. When could be a more appropriate time than this morning, as you are about to go, and where a more appropriate place than upon the door-step of the church, and in the full light of the morning sun? Here it is, the glorious flag of our country—the legacy of our fathers' blood and our fathers' lives. Its protection is our prosperity, its fall our inevitable slavery. Here, take it, and when its gentle undulations are raised by the soft zephyrs, may it call to your minds, your homes, your friends and your families. To your strong arms and undaunted courage we entrust these stars and stripes, knowing that the love of country and the love of home will urge you in its protection. May it as a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night guide you in your country's aid.

"Go now, and let not the tyrant's foot ever trample upon that glorious flag. Let no rebel jest or traitor sport over its untimely fall. And if the battle sound is heard, if your swords be drawn, if your enemy meet you in the field, in the name of the donors I urge you to quit yourselves like men's and when the sound of victory is heard over the tented field, let that flag be found still waving; and only with the fall of your entire company, let it be your winding sheet.

"Go, patriots; friends and brothers, go, and may God and God's blessing go with you."

The Rev. J. H. Flanagan received the flag and responded in a short speech. The company, taking leave of their friends, left for the Baltimore and Ohio railway, where they were mustered into the military service of the United States, on the 28th day of June.

Captain H. C. Hagans's company, from Brandonville, and Captain Litzenger's, from Newburg, were also mustered in the same day, making in all over 300 men from Preston on their way to the Union armies.

The Richmond Convention which had assembled after the vote on the ordinance of secession had been taken in the State, proceeded, on the 28th of June, to the consideration of a report brought in by a committe charging Waitman T. Willey, William G. Brown and other members from Northwestern Virginia, with conspiracy and aiding the enemies of the Commonwealth. On the 29th, William G. Brown, James C. McGrew and others were expelled from the convention, over seventy voting for their expulsion, and less than twelve against it. A. F. Haymond, the chairman of the committee reporting them for expulsion, recommended that the case of Waitman T. Willey be laid over, which was done, and it never was brought up afterwards. The following twelve members from Northwestern Virginia were expelled: William G. Brown and James C. McGrew, of Preston, Chester D. Hubbard and Sherrard Clemmens, of Ohio County, Marshall M. Dent, of Monongalia, E. B. Hall, of Marion, James Burley, of Marshall, Campbell Tarr, of Brooke, John S. Burdett, of Taylor, John S. Carlisle, of Harrison, John J. Jackson, of Wood, and Caleb Boggess, of Lewis County. An election was held at the military camps of the Virginia

troops in the Confederate armies and at the Court-house in Richmond, where all men from any of the counties which these expelled members had heretofore represented, voted for members to the convention in their place. At this election so held Robert E. Cowan and C. J. Pindall Cresap were returned as members of the convention from Preston; in place of William G. Brown and James C. McGrew.

The General Assembly which was called by the Convention, met at Wheeling on the 1st day of July, 1861, and proceeded with the work of reorganizing the State. Waitman T. Willey and John S. Carlisle were elected senators to the Federal Congress, and they, with the representatives chosen in May, were admitted to seats in the respective houses of Congress, as senators and representatives from the State of Virginia. Laws were passed for the raising of State troops, and to facilitate the organization of companies for Federal service. The session closed on the 24th of the month. The reorganized government of the State was now fully recognized by the Federal government, and the people of Northwestern Virginia found themselves protected by the Union armies.

Preston County raised a fourth company of soldiers during July for the Federal government. They were recruited in the neighborhood of Albrightsville.

The State Convention reconvened on the 6th of August, and its numbers were increased by several, members from the Kanawha Valley counties, which had been occupied by the Confederate forces under General Henry A. Wise until shortly before the convention re-assembled. His occupation of that section prevented its citizens from taking any part with the Northwestern counties in the reorganization of the State Government.

When the people of Northwestern Virginia received recognition for the government that they had erected for the old Commonwealth, they then began to consider again the idea of a new State west of the Alleghanies. They demanded of their representatives to the convention to take

action toward the accomplishment of this desirable result. The convention discussed the subject of the new State, so imperatively demanded by the people of Northwestern Virginia. The delegates from the Kanawha Valley were eager for the division of the State and the establishment of a new State west of the Alleghanies. Various opinions were held in regard to the idea by the members of the convention. A letter from Edward Bates, the Attorney-General of the United States, addressed to A. F. Ritchie, a member of the convention, took strong ground against the idea of the formation of a new State out of Western Virginia, claiming that it was a new and hazardous experiment to be ventured upon at a moment when dangers and difficulties were thickening around the Union.

On the 20th of August, an ordinance providing for the formation of a new State out of the State of Virginia, to include thirty-nine specified contiguous counties west of the Alleghanies, and other counties contiguous on certain prescribed conditions, provided the people thereof should, at an election to be held on the fourth Thursday of October following, express their wish to have a new State, which was to be known by the name of Kanawha. The ordinance provided also for the election of delegates, who were to meet at Wheeling on the 26th of November following, and organize a convention to form a constitution for the new State, if created by the vote of the people; and this constitution, if formed, was to be submitted to the people of the proposed State for ratification or rejection, on the fourth Thursday of December following. The vote in the convention on this ordinance stood, fifty in favor of a new State, and twentyeight against. The delegates from Preston County, Harrison Hagans, William B. Zinn, John Howard and Samuel Crane, voted in the affirmative. The convention closed its labors on the 21st of August, and adjourned.

At the election held on the fourth Thursday in October, the citizens of the proposed new State, adopted the ordinance providing for its erection, by a vote of 18,408 in the affirma tive to 781 in the negative. Preston County voted largely in favor of the new State, and elected John J. Brown as delegate to the convention to frame a Constitution.

In November, Captain Godwin's company was mustered into the service of the United States, making the fifth company, and over 500 men raised in the county.

On the 26th of November the constitutional convention met in Wheeling, and organized by electing John Hall president, and Ellery R. Hall secretary, and proceeded to the work for which it was called. It was no easy task to form a constitution that would meet with the approval of the people, the Legislature of the Reorganized Government of Virginia and the Congress of the United States—the three parties whose action must be obtained in its favor before it could go into operation. If a good constitution were framed, it would be no task to secure its ratification by the people and obtain the consent of the Reorganized Legislature of Virginia to the erection of the new State. But in addition to the wish of the people and the grant of the Legislature, the consent of the Congress of the United States must be obtained before the new candidate for State honors could be admitted into the sisterhood of States. This consent, it was realized, would not be easy to obtain. The Attorney-General of the United States, the highest law officer of the Government, had already pronounced against the new State.

Early in the session, a special committee was appointed to determine suitable boundaries for the proposed State. It brought in a report recommending a change of boundaries so as to include the Shenandoah Valley, which was rejected upon the ground that the inhabitants of that Valley were nearly all secessionists. On the 14th of December, Battelle, of Ohio County, offered a series of propositions having for their object gradual removal of slavery from the new State. A spirited debate ensued upon their introduction, and they were defeated, after a long struggle, by a majority of one.

The convention adjourned on the 18th day of February, 1862.

The constitution they framed changed the old method of viva voce voting to the present ballot system. The office of Lieutenant-Governer was abolished. A system of judicial circuits was adopted in place of the county courts. counties were divided into townships for the better regulation of local affairs, and the magisterial districts abolished. Each township of not less than 400 inhabitants, was to elect one justice of the peace, one constable, one supervisor, one clerk and one surveyor of roads; and if containing 1200 or more inhabitants, it was to elect two justices and two con-The supervisors of the several townships of a county were to constitute a county board, which was to have charge of the affairs of the county. All taxes were to be uniform and equal, and the credit of the State was not to be granted to corporations, and a liberal provision was made for the establishment of a system of free schools.

This constitution was submitted to the people of the forty-eight counties composing the proposed new State, on the 3d day of April, 1862, and was adopted by a vote of 18,362 in its favor to 514 against it. The population of these counties in 1860, was 334,921 whites, and 12,771 colored.

The first step in the formation of the new State had been approved by an overwhelming majority of the people in its favor. The second step was to secure the grant of the Reorganized Legislature of Virginia, which was obtained on the 13th day of May, 1862, in the passage of a bill by that body granting assent to the formation and erection of the State of West Virginia (the name Kanawha having been dropped) within the jurisdiction of the State of Virginia, according to the stipulations of the new State.

The third and most difficult step was now to be taken, which was to secure the consent of Congress, and then a new star would blaze upon the flag of our Union in the constellation of the States. A memorial of the legislature, with their act granting assent to the formation of the new State and

the constitution of the latter, was presented in the United States Senate on the 29th of May, 1862, by the Hon. Waitman T. Willey, and was referred to the Territorial Committee, which brought in a report on the 23d of June. This report was embodied in Senate Bill No. 365, and proposed that the boundaries of the new State be extended to include the Shenandoah Valley, that a clause providing for gradual emancipation be incorporated in the constitution, and that the people embraced within the limits of the proposed State including the Shenandoah Valley, vote upon the question of forming such a State. This bill, if passed, would have prevented the formation of a new State, as the inhabitants of the Shenandoah Valley were nearly all secessionists, and would have voted the new State down. On the 25th of June, the Hon. William G. Brown, of Preston, introduced in the House of Representatives, a bill, entitled, "An act for the admission of the State of West Virginia into the Union and for other purposes." This act was drawn with great care by Mr. Brown. It made the boundaries of the new State to include only the forty-eight counties that had voted for the creation of such a State, incorporated the gradual emancipation clause into the constitution of the proposed State as demanded by Congress, made provisions for the amended constitution to be submitted to a vote of the people of these forty-eight counties, and when the convention of the people of West Virginia should make the above change in their constitution, and a vote taken ratifying such change, it should be lawful for the President to issue a proclamation stating the fact, and in sixty days afterward West Virginia was to become a State of the Union. Mr. Brown supported his bill with a clear, logical and able speech.

Harrison Hagans, of Preston County, and several other able men from West Virginia, went to Washington, to labor for the admission of the new State. Mr. Hagans, full of energy and earnestness, was remarkably successful in approaching many members of Congress and in enlisting their support in favor of admitting the new State.

On the 1st day of July, 1862, Senator Willey offered a substitute in the Senate for Senate Bill No. 365, and further amended his substitute till it covered the same ground as Mr. Brown's bill. Senator Wade, of Ohio, supported the bill, while Summer and Trumbull opposed it. An amended act, introduced by Senator Willey, in substance the same as Mr. Brown's bill, passed, and was approved by President Lincoln on the 31st of December, 1862.

The Wheeling Convention re-assembled on the 12th of February, 1863, and made the change in the constitution as proposed in the act of Congress, and adjourned. On the 26th of March, the vote on the constitution as amended, providing for gradual abolition of slavery, was had in the fortyeight counties, and it was adopted by a majority of nearly twenty-seven thousand; and the President issued his proclamation of the fact, on the 19th day of April, 1863.

Jones's Raid.—In April, 1863, the Confederates planned a raid into Northwestern Virginia for the purpose of destroy ing the bridges on, and tearing up the track of, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. After this was accomplished, the force sent was to raid through the Northern part of Preston and Monongalia, secure as many horses as possible, and inflict any further damage in their power upon the Union cause. When they had reached a point as far north as they thought it safe to venture, the expedition was to turn southward through Monongalia and Marion, and destroy the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at whatever point they might strike it in their march back to the Confederate lines. The expedition was fitted out, and consisted of about 3000 cavalry, under the command of General Jones. A fight with some Union troops at Greenland Gap, delayed it a day or so in its march on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. At the South Branch (Potomac) bridge, General Jones divided his force, and sent Colonel Harmon, with about 1000 men, to strike the railway at Oakland, Maryland, and follow it westward to Rowlesburg, at which place Jones would rejoin him.

General Jones, after detaching Colonel Harmon's force,

pushed forward over the old Northwestern Turnpike to West Union, where his troops took some goods from a store, and resumed their westward march. When Jones reached the Cheat River bridge, on Sunday, April 26, 1863, he dismounted a couple of companies and sent them up over a steep mountain called Palmer's Knob, a distance of a mile and a half, to strike the east end of the railway bridge at Rowlesburg. By that time he would arrive with the main body at the west end of Rowlesburg by the Northwest Turnpike and the river road, a distance of nearly six miles. Jones crossed the bridge over Cheat on the turnpike, but did not stop to destroy it in his haste to push on to Rowlesburg. When he arrived at the point where the river road led down to Rowlesburg, before turning his troops off the turnpike, he called up a Mr. Morris, a resident of that town, whom he had captured at West Union and brought along with his forces, and closely questioned him concerning the strength of the Union force stationed at Rowlesburg. General Jones asked him how many yankee soldiers there were at Rowlesburg, and whether they would fight. Morris was well aware that there were but about 150 or 200 troops at most there, yet he said, "My God! General Jones, I hope you don't think of attacking Rowlesburg; why, there are 1600 troops there now, and more expected by every train; and them troops are not New England yankees either; they are West Virginia yankees at home, and will fight like wild cats. Jones seemed perplexed by the straightforward answer of Morris, given with such great earnestness; and thinking that it might be so, as he had been acquainted with Morris before the war, and knew him to be a truthful man. Studying for a moment, he halted his force on the turnpike, and sent about 250 men down the river as scouts, to drive in the pickets on the west side of the town, to co-operate with the dismounted companies that would attack on the east, and to ascertain the strength of his enemy. If they were found as strong as Morris had represented, both detachments were to fall back to the main body on the turnpike; but if the Union force was found to be weak, they were to open the attack, and send word back to him, and he would join them with the whole force, and take the town.

The Union force at Rowlesburg consisted of Companies F and K, and parts of Companies L and O, detached from the Sixth (West) Virginia Regiment, infantry, under the command of Major John H. Showalter. The dismounted companies of Jones's command, in their slow ascent of the mountain, were discovered by John Wheeler, who ran as fast as he could to the town, and, giving the alarm to the soldiers scattered about in groups, sped breathlessly to a church where religious services were being held, and, entering haltless, announced that the rebels were coming. audience at once dispersed, and found Major Showalter's men falling into ranks on the north side of the railway embankment. He formed his men in line from the River. Hotel to the west end of the railway bridge. Some railway cross-ties were hastily piled up on the railroad track, and this, together with the embankment, formed a defense for his men, behind which they lay down, with the citizens of the town who had grasped their arms and joined the soldiers to defend their homes. Major Showalter's disposition of his handful of men was none too soon, for while his troops were forming, the shots of the Confederates driving in the pickets were heard, and, in a few minutes, they came up over the crest of Quarry Mountain, then called "Hog-back." They came down the mountain about half way to a bench, where they formed in line. They looked down upon the town, but no one was to be seen, as the Union force was concealed behind its defense. A moment, and a sheet of flame burst from along the deserted looking railway, and a leaden shower fell around the invading force on the mountain side. They instantly replied with a heavy volley, that fell harmless on the defense protecting the Union men. Another fire from the Union troops; and as its smoke slowly rolled away, the Confederates were seen in full retreat along the side of the mountain, going in a southward direction up the river.

They had retreated but a short time, when firing was heard on the river road. Lieutenant McDonald, of company L, had been sent by Major Showalter, when the alarm was first given of the Confederates approaching, up the river, about a mile, with 20 men, to take position on a steep hill commanding the river road where it was very narrow. The companies sent down the road by Jones, had been checked by Lieutenant McDonald. They attempted to ascend the hill, but were met by too heavy a fire. An effort was next made by the Confederates to cross the river, and go down on the opposite side of it, but McDonald's men had been joined by about 20 citizens, and so hot and well directed a fire was poured upon the adventurous party in the river, that they were glad to retreat to the shore.

Unsuccessful in every attempt, either to carry McDonald's position or pass it, they fell back and retreated to the turnpike, reporting to their general the unfavorable result of their fight. The dismounted companies also arrived and told of their unsuccessful attempt. Morris was highly elated, and wanted to know of Jones whether he had not told him the truth, and if he did not think that West Virginia yankees would fight.

General Jones concluded that, if 300 of his force were not able to disledge the enemy, it would be useless for only 2000 men, the amount of his whole force, to attack the place with any expectation of taking it, and that his best course would be to move forward and strike the Baltimore & Ohio Railread farther west. Hence he caused his force to resume its march over the Northwest Turnpike towards Fellowsville, and camped for the night at the Red-oak Knob, east of William H. Brown's.

On Monday morning, April 27, 1863, General Jones broke camp and resumed his march to Fellowsville. Knowing that all the reinforcements sent along the railroad by the Federal government would run into Rowlesburg, he detached a couple of companies to move north and strike the railroad at Newburg, which they did that day, tearing up the railroad track, burning the engine-house, and then rejoined the main body near Morgantown.

When the main army reached Fellowsville, the soldiers broke into a store and appropriated its contents. The same day Jones passed on to Evansville, and there left the Northwestern Turnpike, turning in a northward direction, and striking the railroad at Independence where he tore up the tailway track and all the bridges. He then resumed the march toward Morgantown, and camped for the night beyond the western border of Preston. Detachments from the main body paid flying visits to different points in the western part of the county, gathering up all the horses they could find.

After Jones crossed into Monongalia County, he was joined by Colonel Harmon, who had been detached, as before stated, at the North Branch bridge.

Colonel Harmon, when he left General Jones, pushed for Oakland, Maryland, where he arrived on Sunday. He found here 18 effective men of Company O, 6th West Virginia Infantry, whom he made prisoners of war. After tearing up the railroad track, the force started for Cranberry Summit (Portland). A little distance out from Oakland, they came upon Captain Joseph M. Godwin and Lieutenant Saucer of Company O, who had been inspecting a road over which to haul some timber for a block-house. They took them prisoners, and conducted them to Colonel Harmon. After some conversation with Captain Godwin, the Colonel paroled him and all of his men. The Confederates burned all the bridges on the railroad, and swept on toward Cranberry.

The only organized force at Cranberry was a squad of about a dozen men, a part of Company O of the 6th West Virginia Infantry. This company was commanded by Captain Joseph M. Godwin, who was at the time at Oakland with one part of the company, while a third part of the company was at Rowlesburg.

This squad at Cranberry was joined by some citizens of the place, and going out east of the town near an old saw-mill awaited the coming of the invaders. The gray line, 1000 strong, approaches them coming on till M. F. Stuck and Benjamin Shaw fire. The advancing column falters, sways only a moment, and on it comes. The squad retreats in haste. Mr. Shaw makes his escape, but they capture some of the soldiers. Four men pursue Mr. Stuck, two with carbines and two with pistols. They fire seven shots at him, one ball passing close by his right side, and another over his shoulder. "Threw down that gun," they cry. "I won't do it," he replies; "you may take it, but I won't throw it down." They take him and tie his hands behind his back. "If my hands were n't tied, and I had a gun," says Stuck, "I'd blow your heart out. He was then taken back to the main body to a place where there were four stumps. Designating one of them, Colonel Harmon ordered him to get upon it. But as his hands were tied, and he was in no hurry about it, the Colonel commanded one of his men to help him. When this was done, an aid asked Colonel Harmon, "What are you going to de with him?" "Shoot him," was the Colonel's answer; and he proceeded to question Mr. Stuck. "Do you hold any office under the restored government of Virginia?" queried the Colonel. "I am deputy sheriff of Preston County," answered Mr. Stuck. "Have you any papers or any thing else belonging to your office?" Mr. Stuck said he had not.

Lieutenant Zane, who had been shot through the shoulder in the encounter, asked the Colonel "What will you do with him?" Colonel Harmon answered, "Shoot him." Mr. Stuck was as defiant as ever, and told them that if they were such cowards as to shoot him with his hands tied, they could do so. Colonel Harmon, speaking to his men, thereupon said: "A man that has as much pluck as that, I will hold as a prisoner, take to Richmond and have him tried for treason for holding office under the government of West Virginia." Colonel Harmon then told a little boy, John Taylor, to untie the

prisoner's hands; and thereupon a number of persons rode up and asked him how he he was, calling him by name, and asked what he was doing there—persons whose faces were more familiar in Preston than in any other county in the United States.

David Lovenstein, the telegraph operator, was charged by Colonel Harmon with giving word of their coming and spreading the alarm. Stuck was asked about it, and answered that it was a general report.

The prisoners were all sworn and paroled or let go, except Stuck, who was mounted on a bare-backed horse and taken along.

A cavalryman rode up to Mr. Stuck, having three hats in his hand, which he had taken from the store of Nutter & Evans. Mr. Stuck asked him for one of them, as he was bareheaded, and got it. The several stores at Cranberry were pillaged by the Confederates, the soldiers helping themselves to what they wanted and distributing goods among the people of the town.

When about three-quarters of a mile out from the town, Mr. Stuck asked his guards to be taken to the Colonel. They told him the least said the better. He insisted on seeing Harmon, and rode up to his side. The Colonel said, "Stuck, you don't like to ride barebacked, do you?" "Untie me, Colonel, and treat me like a white man," was Mr. Stuck's reply. As they rode along together, Harmon inquired about getting to Rowlesburg, apparently thinking the road they were traveling would lead to that place. Mr. Stuck explained to him that the road lead to Kingwood, and not to Rowlesburg. This mistake of Colonel Harmon (if, indeed, it was a mistake) was a fortunate one for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and the government, for with his force of a thousand men, he could easily have taken the place, and destroyed the railway bridge across Cheat.

The delay caused by the fight at Greenland Gap, and the mistake Colonel Harmon claims he made in the road to Rowlesburg, disarranged his plans, and Morgantown thus be-

tame the second objective point of his dashing raid. His first objective point, as Mr. Stuck gathered in the conversation with him, was Rowlesburg, where he was to join Jones's brigade.

When three miles out from Cranberry, Colonel Harmon released Mr. Stuck, with the injunction to go home, and not let him catch him in such a scrape again. On Mr. Stuck's telling him he would fight again under similar circumstances, the Colonel replied, "I den't blame you." Just then a soldier passed, and took the hat Mr. Stuck was wearing from his head. Mr. Stuck appealed to the Colonel, and he ordered the soldier to place the hat back on Mr. Stuck's head. As Mr. Stuck rede back, going homeward, along the marching column, he was repeatedly asked by the soldiers, "How did you get away from the Colonel?" To which he replied, "That is a matter between the Colonel and myself." Mr. Stuck got back safely to Cranberry, much to the surprise of his neighbors.

Colonel Harmon's force followed the Kingwood Turnpike to Albrightsville, and camped for the night at the east end of the wire suspension bridge. As to Colonel Harmon's taking this road by mistake, it is very doubtful; in fact, it could not have been so, as he was led by persons perfectly familiar with the entire country.

Monday morning, April 27. 1863, the Confederates, after crossing the bridge, cut it down; and by 9 o'clock entered Kingwood. Colonel Harmon issued orders for none of his soldiers to enter any private house, and he set a guard over James C McGrew's store, which some of his men had attempted to break open. Two other stores that remained open were not disturbed by the Confederates. One of the soldiers procured an axe and commenced cutting at the Union pole, when Colonel Harmon came up and ordered him away, saying, "I did not come here to make war on flag poles." They did not offer to enter the Court house, and the public records and property of the county were not molested. After securing all the horses they could find, and pursuing two

or three citizens who had shot at them when they were coming into town, they departed for Morgantown, to rejoin the main command. Passing through Reedsville, they took nearly all Heidelberger's goods. They had been removed, from his store to the woods, where they found them.

A detachment was sent from here, by way of Masontown, to Morgantown, to look out for horses through the country.

Colonel Harmon then pushed on as rapidly as possible, and by night his command was reunited with the main body under General Jones. A great many horses were captured by the two divisions. General Jones, when he arrived at the North Branch bridge, was informed that there were but a few men along the whole line of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad through Preston County; and upon this information he may have deemed it unnecessary for Colonel Hamon to rejoin him at Rowlesburg, and probably ordered him by way of Kingwood, in order to get as many horses as possible from Preston County.

Major Showalter's Retreat.—We come now to notice the retreat of Major John H. Showalter from Rowlesburg with the Union forces under his command into Pennsylvania - an act that met with the universal indignation of almost all the people throughout Preston and Monongalia Counties at the time. Major Showalter was bitterly denounced as a coward, while his few friends claimed that his retreat was ordered by his superior officers, and that he was not responsible for it, After the Confederates retreated from Rowlesburg, on Sunday, April 26, 1863, a company of volunteers arrived from Wheeling with four mountain howitzers. On Sunday Major Showalter sent out several scouts, who returned on Monday with the news that the Confederates were at Cranberry, east of Rowlesburg, in strong force, and, also, that they were blasting out the arches of the great Kingwood tunnel (which Major Showalter had no provisions, and these reports of the Confederates occupying and destroying the railway, both east and west of Rowlesburg, cut him off from supplies, and made it likely that he would be attacked any

hour. A council was called by the Major, to consider the situation, and determine what was best to do under the circumstances. C. M. Bishop, of Rowlesburg, sent word to the council that he had three barrels of flour under his charge, that he would assume the responsibility of furnishing, together with a hogshead or more of bacon, and a large lot of corn that could be ground that day. Captain Hall and the officers of his company (F) were averse to the idea of a retreat under any circumstances. This company had been raised at Rowlesburg, and most of the men were citizens of the place.

After the council was over, Major Showalter ordered a retreat. A lot of ammunition was thrown into the river, and late in the afternoon of Monday, the 27th, the whole force, numbering about 450 men, with a few horses and the battery of four mountain howitzers, left Rowlesburg for Kingwood. That night they camped on the mountain, about seven miles out from Rowlesburg. Crossing Cheat River at the Fairfax ferry the next morning they arrived in Kingwood, destitute of provisions. The citizens, though pretty well eaten out the day before by the Confederates, exerted themselves and raised provisions enough to feed them. They then took up their line of march in the direction of Morgantown by the old Clarksburg road, and camped for the night at Zinn's (now Brown's) Mill. It is claimed by Major Showalter's friends that he sent three men that night to the railway west of Independence, to telegraph for orders; which they did, and received and brought back to him a dispatch ordering him to march to Wheeling, which was now threatened, in the shortest possible time; that he concluded he could march to Uniontown, Pennsylvania, by way of Morgantown, and go by rail to Pittsburg, and thence by water to Wheeling, quicker than he could march across the country to Wheeling. During the night he sent Major U. N. Orr to Gladesville, to see if a reported Confederate force was there. Major Orr arrived at Gladesville clad in a suit of citizen's clothes, and found a camp of Confederate strag

glers, who left very early to join the main body. Orr sext word back to Major Showalter that all the Confederate force, except some stragglers, had gone, and that he learned that the railroad was clear of them at Independence.

On Wednesday morning, the 29th, Major Showalter broke camp, and marched to Morgantown, where he found that the Confederates had just left. He pushed on by a night march, and reached Smithfield, Pennsylvania, 16 miles from Morgantown, where the citizens furnished his men with breakfast, and provided a few teams to haul some of them to Uniontown, a distance of 9 miles. Arriving at Uniontown he took the cars, and proceeded to Pittsburg, thence by water to Wheeling.

This retreat was a terrible blunder, let the responsibility rest where it may. After repulsing the enemy and receiving a reinforcement of 100 men and four mountain howitzers, it was folly to retreat from the same enemy, which had not a single piece of artillery. Nor need there have been fears of getting short of provisions, for had they been driven out of Rowlesburg, or been unable to get provisions by rail, they had a section of the county to fall back on, that was full of grain and meats, and loyal to the core.

On the fourth Thursday of May (1861), an election was held for State officers and members of the general assembly of the new State of West Virginia that would come into existence on the 20th of June, 1863, according to the President's proclamation of April 19th, 1863. Preston County now had several hundred soldiers in the field in West Virginia regiments, and nearly two hundred in Maryland regiments. The county loyally gave her sons to the armies in the field while threatened all the time herself by raids from the Confederates. A great many of the people of the county looked as anxiously forward to a change from the old to the new State, as their fathers looked forward in 1818 to a change from the old County of Monongalia to the new County of Preston.

In the history of the county, from 1818 to 1831 was a period of inchoative enterprises; from 1831, when the amended constitution of 1830 went in effect, till 1850, comprised a period during which the attention of the people was turned toward the construction of turnpikes. In 1851, the new amended constitution went into effect. In the same year, the construction of a great railway through the county was begun. In 1852, it was finished, and the era of railways succeeded the era of turnpikes. In 1860, a convention was called to the amend constitution again, and with its assembling, in February, 1861, commenced the war period, extending to the close of the Great Rebellion, and in which our people were concerned, successively, with the secession provement, the formation of the New State, and the progress and close of the war, as the chief events of the period.

CHAPTER IX.

COUNTY OF PRESTON—WEST VIRGINIA.

CLOSE OF THE GREAT REBELLION—BURNING OF THE COURT-HOUSE

—THE PANIC—COUNTY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION—BUSINESS
RESUMPTION,—1863–1881.

Upon the Banner of the Republic gleams another star. Into the sisterhood of States is received another member—West Virginia the thirty-fifth State of the Union. The long

struggle for political supremacy between the eastern and western sections of Virginia had ended by the arbitrament of war, in the erection of the latter, west of the Alleghanies, into

ARMS OF W.VA. the new State of West Virginia. The rivalry long existing between them had been carried from the halls of the State legislature to the battle fields of a great civil war and there ended in the dismemberment of Virginia. The one linked its destinies with the Gulf States, the other cast in its fortunes with the Federal government. In this struggle Preston County was almost unanimous in the cause of the Union, and her sons by hundreds were marching and fighting from the mountains to the sea beneath the Stars and Stripes.

On the 20th day of June, 1863, the birthday of the new State, the Hon A. I. Boreman was inaugurated as Governor of West Virginia; Samuel Crane was Auditor; Campbell Tarr, Treasurer; J. E. Boyers, Secretary of State; and A. B. Caldwell, Attorney-General.

The Reorganized Government of Virginia had removed, a few days before this, to Alexandria, Virginia, after appropriating the sum of 150,000 dollars out of the State treasury to the new State government, which was nothing more than an act of justice, as this money had been collected from the people embraced within the boundaries of the new State.

The Legislature of West Virginia, on the 31st of July, appointed Harrison Hagans, Solomon Miller, George M. Michaels, James H. Shaffer, Peter M. Hartley, William H. Grimes, Joseph G. Baker and William H. Brown as commissioners to divide Preston County into townships, and designate them by names. These commissioners met, and, employing a competent surveyor, proceeded to divide the county into eight townships, and the running and marking of the boundary lines thereof.

Beginning on the east side of Cheat River, on the north they marked off the first township, and ran its lines with but little variation from the existing lines enclosing the old First District, and named it Grant, in honor of the conqueror of Vicksburg. They then laid off the remainder of the county in like manner, making each magisterial district a township with but little alteration of its enclosing lines. The Second District became the second township, by the name of Pleasant; Third District became the third township, which was named Portland, after the city of that name in Maine; Fourth District became the fourth township and was called Union. The Commissioners crossed Cheat River to the west Beginning at the north, the Fifth District became the side. fifth township, and was called Valley on account of its several valleys. The Sixth District became the sixth township, and was called Kingwood, in honor of the county-seat; the Seventh became the seventh township, and was called Lyon, in honor of General Lyon, the hero of Wilson's Creek; the Eighth District became the eighth township, and was called Reno, for the Union General of that name,

On the third of August, the Legislature authorized the heirs of David Albright to establish a ferry across Cheat River, below the site of the wire suspension bridge destroyed by Colonel Harmon.

The remainder of the year 1863, and the succeeding year 1864, passed with nothing of much importance taking place in the county, except, once or twice, a false alarm was spread of another Confederate invasion.

In 1865, the white-winged angel of peace passed o'er the war-storm's blood-stained trail, the soldiers returned to their homes, and business so long languishing, revived all over the county, and for the next two years steadily increased.

The town of Newburg was incorporated by an act of the Legislature passed February 12, 1868. The municipal authorities of said town were to be a mayor, recorder and five councilmen, who together were to form a common council.

The legislature passed an act, on the 22d of February, creating a school district in the town of Brandonville, and the council of said town was created a board of education for said district.

It was Saturday, the sixth day of March, 1869. The elements seemed to be exhausted in their mad strife to rule the lengthening day—winter and spring were contending for the mastery. The evening, cold and chilly, wore away in fitful, sleeting snow squalls, and died into the darkness of night. The thermometer fell below zero. By and by as the midnight hours came on apace, the shadows flit, the clouds were riven and scattered, and began to chase each other over the darkly outlined ridges like hounds in pursuit of the flying deer. The stars, God's gems in the coronal of creation, diamonds in the crown of omnipotent power, then lit up the curtained plains of night.

On Sunday morning, March 7, 1869, about two o'clock, the citizens of Kingwood were awakened by the cry of fire to find that their fine court building was wrapped in a sheet of flame—the work of destruction being so nearly completed that nothing could be saved. The buildings around the

Court-house were saved by great exertion. Peter Voltz was living in that part of the Court-house termed Town Hall, and though on the first floor, barely had time to escape, so rapid had been the progress of the flames. Mr. Voltz discovered the fire about 2 o'clock, and noticed a solid flame issue from Mr. Crane's office. It commenced on the steps, which were made of oak wood, and seemed to run up the steps. Mr. D. Y. Morris had been in Mr. Crane's office Saturday night until about 10 o'clock, and would have stayed later but the fire went out.

The most careful investigation could find no carelessness on the part of those who had access to the offices in the building, and general sentiment pronounced the fire to be the work of an incendiary. The people of the county were in perfect consternation at the destruction of the legal records for fifty years lacking a month, and which alone contained the proceedings of the civil and criminal doings of the county. There was no clue seeming to point with directness to the incendiary, though there were those who declared, the night the fire occurred, that Elihu Gregg was the perpetrator.

Persons who were acquainted with the legal business of the county, knew that a judgment was on record against Gregg, from which there was no possible escape, except through the destruction of the official records. This judgment was for one hundred dollars and costs, and was recovered, after a long and bitter suit, by Samuel Summers, against Gregg for slander. Summers was unable to make his judgment of the personal estate of Gregg, and brought a chancery suit to subject his land to sale. The suit resulted in a decree for the sale of Gregg's land to satisfy this judgment and another small one in favor of Josiah Smith. An advertisement of the sale was published, according to which the land was to be offered for sale, at public auction, at the front door of the Court-house, on Monday, the 8th day of March, 1869, that being the first day of the circuit court.

This fact, in connection with the bad reputation which Gregg possessed, was the ground upon which this suspicion

against him of burning the Court-house rested. James H. Carroll, who had been employed as Summers's attorney in his chancery suit against Gregg, and who had been appointed a special commissioner of the court to sell Gregg's land, to satisfy the judgment obtained by Summers, was strongly inclined to the belief that Gregg was the incendiary.

Mr. Carroll and the Hon. William G. Brown, immediately after the fire, consulted with Mr. Andrew B. Menear, of Kingwood, with regard to ferreting out the incendiary and tracing up Elihu Gregg's suspected agency in the affair. Mr. Menear at once set out to find all he could of Gregg's whereabouts on the night of the fire. He found that Gregg had been traveling for a few days prior to the burning over the western part of the county, and had been over into Monongalia County. But Gregg's whereabouts on the night of the fire could not be accounted for by any one, until just about daylight, when he was seen riding, coming from the direction of Kingwood, with beard covered with frost and ice.

Mr. Menear found what he thought to be ample evidence to justify the arrest of Gregg for the crime. Accordingly a warrant for his arrest was sworn out before Justice Hezekiah Pell, on the 30th day of March, upon the charge of felony. The warrant was placed in the the hands of Mr. Menear, who was appointed a special constable to serve the writ.

Mr. Menear, accompanied by Colonel William H. King and the Rev. Joseph H. Gibson, of Portland District, started in quest of Gregg. They found him, on March 31st, near the distillery of C. A. Hart, just across the State line, in Fayette County, Pennsylvania. He was at work in a shook shop when they arrested him. They handcuffed him and placed him on a horse, binding him with cords, and tieing his feet together under the animal.

They then made inquiry of Hart, as to which was the best of several roads leading from there to Uniontown, the county-seat of Fayette, their intention being, as they had no Pennsylvania warrant, to take him to Uniontown, and before some justice of the peace there have him committed to jail to await

the issue of a requisition to bring him to West Virginia. Gregg told them that he knew of a shorter road than that which Hart had recommended, and proceeded to describe it. They concluded to follow this road for a certain reason, which they did not impart to Gregg. They set out upon this road, which soon made a turn, passing into and through a small part of West Virginla, and then leading back into Pennsylvania. When they crossed the State line and were upon the soil of Preston, Menear read to Gregg the warrant issued by Justice Pell, and they then changed their direction of travel, bringing Gregg to Kingwood and lodging him in the old stone jail, to await trial for the crime with which he stood charged. Gregg has always alledged that they brought him across the State line against his remonstrances.

Elihu Gregg came from Greene County, Pennsylvania, to Preston when a young man, and lived in Portland District, about 6 miles from Cranberry, on the Cranberry and Cranesville road. A high knob on this road still bears his name—"Gregg's Knob,"—but the farm is now known by the name of Pleasant Hill, and is occupied by the Rev. Daniel-Titchenell. Elihu Gregg's general reputation was none too good. He was known as being litigious, over-bearing and quarrelsome, and was charged with habitually carrying deadly weapons.

A special term of circuit court met on Monday, July 12th. 1869, at Kingwood, and held its sessions in the old academy building. Judge John A. Dille, the judge of the circuit, presided. The following grand jurors were sworn: William H. Grimes, Adam H. Bowman, Hunter Fortney, David Albright, John V. Fortney, William J. Stone, James W. Parsons, W. W. Messenger, Isaac N. Forman, Elias Nine. Thomas Beatty, Abraham Feather, Robert Arnold, William Chidester, Henry Sell and Calvin C. Forman.

The grand jury indicted Elihu Gregg for felony, in four several counts:—first, the felonious burning of the dwelling-house of Peter Voltz, on the day of March 7, 1869, at 1 o'clock of said day, the said house being occupied by Voltz's

family; second, the burning of the Court-house, as the property of Preston County, occupied at the time by Peter Voltz as a dwelling; third, the burning of the Court-house, whereby the dwelling of Peter Voltz was burnt; and, fourth, the burning of the Court house, whereby the house of Hiram Vankirk was burnt.

Intense excitement prevailed among the people over the burning of the Court-house and the destruction of all the county's legal records from its formation down to that time; and the academy was throughd with an anxious crowd, who believed Gregg to be guilty, and hence entertained no good feeling toward him. Every man in the county was effected, more or less, in his business relations by the destruction of these records.

Deputy Sheriff Heironimous Zotz brought the prisoner into court. He had no counsel, and claimed that he was pecuniarily unable to employ any one to defend him. Whereupon the court appointed Henry C. Showalter, who was not a resident of the county, to defend him. Showalter entered upon the defense, and moved a continuance of the cause. This motion was overruled, as well as the motion for a change of venue to try the case in some other county.

The trial began forthwith, and a jury was impanneled. Objection was made to the jury, because the jurors had been summoned for the March term of court. Thereupon the first jury was discharged, and a second impanneled. This jury was composed of the following named men: Jacob Fream, Benjamin Freeland, George W. Walls, W. K. Core, John Scott, Stephen Watkins, David Nine, William Hibbs, Henson Liston, William M. Smith, David S. Wilt and George D. Moore.

Colonel Charles Hooton, the prosecuting attorney, was in ill health, and the prosecution was conducted by the Hon. William G. Brown, assisted by B. F. M. Hurley, of Frederick, Maryland, and James A. Brown, Esq. After the trial commenced Gregg secured the services of the late George O. Davenport, of Wheeling, to assist Mr. Showalter; and on

Thursday Mr. Showalter procured the services of P. H. Keck, Esq., of Morgantown, in his stead.

The Hon. William G. Brown opened the case, and the following witnesses were called upon the stand, in the order of their names: D. Y. Morris, Peter Voltz and Henry Startzman, who were qualified to the safe condition in which the Courthouse was left on Saturday night, March 6, by the county officials having charge of it, and also the hour (between 2 and 3 o'clock) that they saw it on fire.

Noah Titchenell related a conversation he said he had with the prisoner, in which Gregg swore he would burn the town of Kingwood, because he had been badly treated in a suit there. He could not tell what time this conversation occurred.

James H. Carroll stated that he was appointed a commissioner to sell the land of Gregg and others, on March 8, 1869, but could not on account of the Court-house burning, as the decree specified that the sale should take place at the Court-house door.

William Runner testified that he lived four miles from Morgantown, and that on the 3d of March Gregg got horsefeed of him and had a jug—said he was going to Independence to sell some wine.

Franklin Gray testified that he saw Gregg riding towards Kingwood on Wednesday, March 3d; that he had on a blue Government overcoat, and had a pistol sticking out of his pocket. On the night of the burning he heard some one on horseback pass his house about 11 o'clock, and near morning he saw old tracks where some one had walked into B. Stone's lane, and fresh horse tracks coming out.

Allen Fawcett stated that he lived $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Kingwood, and that Gregg came to his house Wednesday night and said his name was Crebs, and he was going to Morgantown for oats.

Smith Crane, Clerk of the Circuit Court, stated that all the papers in the case of Gregg were in his office, except the chancery order book. David Wheeler and Henry Grimes stated that they saw Gregg at Reedsville on Thursday, March 4th, and that he had a jug which he said contained "sky-light oil."

Ami Walls testified that Gregg stayed with him on Tuesday night after the fire, and went off in the direction of Ice's Ferry.

John W. Guseman stated that on Thursday night, March 4th, Gregg stayed with him, and said that he was going to Independence to work for a man whose name he had forgotten; that he had a sack with a jug in it, and wore a blue Government overcoat, and said the jug contained Whortleberry wife and wanted him to taste it; that he left on Friday morning to go to Morgantown to buy oats, and came back Friday evening and stayed all night, leaving on Saturday morning for Bruceton; that on Sunday morning, the 7th, he came back about 6:45 o'clock with his whiskers and beard full of ice, and said he had been out sparking; his handkerchief was frozen to his face; that Gregg told him that he started for Bruceton on Saturday, but could not cross the river, and had gone to Greene County, and bought a straw-cutter; that his house was in Monongalia County, about 10 miles from Reedsville.

W. B. Weaver testified to meeting Gregg on Saturday, the 6th, and directed him, on the old Kingwood road, to a place to cross the river.

Henry Smith was qualified that the prisoner stopped on Saturday with him and wanted to get a lot of hoop-poles.

John Mölisee stated that Gregg was at his house, 14 miles from Kingwood, the same day at 4 o'clock p. m., and said he wanted to get home.

Mrs. John W. Guseman testified that on Thursday, the 4th, when the prisoner was there, one of her little girls got oil out of the jug that Gregg said had wine in it.

Robert Savage, who lived at Prideville, (Ice's Ferry, Monongalia County,) in March, said that Gregg came to his house in that month, and had a jug with oil in it.

Hiram Vankirk testified that his house was twenty feet from the Court-house, and was set on fire from it.

John Johnson swore that the prisoner wanted to borrow his horse at Guseman's Mill to go sparking on Friday night, March 5th.

John Williams stated that Gregg came from Ice's Ferry to his house, nine miles from Kingwood, before sun down on Saturday, and stopped to warm.

Mr. Broderick testified to living six miles from Williams's, and hearing some one pass after dark; also Isaac Teets, living one mile from Broderick's, testified that a man, about 9 o'clock, passed and inquired how far it was to Allen Fawcett's.

H. Zotz, the jailer, made a statement of his unsuccessful attempt to enter the Court-house when on fire.

Mark Harris swore that he saw the tracks of a man who had come down on the Kingwood and Morgantown Turnpike as far as the toll-gate; and that, following the track, he saw where some one had set a jug or bucket down in the snow: that the tracks were made by size seven or eight boots.

Brokenborough Stone testified that he lived two miles west of Kingwood, to the left of the Morgantown road; that the by-road on which the man's tracks were discovered, led to his house, and that he saw where a horse had been hitched and had trampled around considerably.

Henry Wright stated that he saw horse tracks on the Morgantown Turnpike, near Fawcett's.

A. B. Menear testified that he found the jug produced in court, in Gregg's tool-chest when he arrested him.

Nicholas Gross related a conversation between Gregg and himself, by the jail window, after Gregg was in jail, in which Gregg offered him 3000 dollars worth of counterfeit money to swear that Gregg was at his house on Saturday night, March 6th, 1869.

John Dill and Samuel Menear stated that they had seen a fresh horse track on the Morgantown turnpike on Sunday morning, March 7th.

George Smith testified that he saw Elihu Gregg riding on Sunday morning, towards Guseman's, about daylight.

Dr.-Lazier, of Morgantown, stated that the prisone bought a gallon of oil from him; that he very seldom filled jugs with oil, and, therefore, remembered well the circum stance; that the jug in the possession of the court looks like—the one I filled for Gregg.

A. Lee, residing three miles from Brandonville, testified that he had heard Gregg-say, in the summer of 1868, he had three plans to stop the sale of his land, and one of them would work.

James Hays, the last witness on the part of the State stated that he resided in Monongalia County, and that of the morning of the 7th of March, he saw the prisoner as he (Gregg) was coming from Decker's Creek, from the direction of Kingwood, and the little sorrel mare, with three white legs and a star in her face, that he was riding, was a frosty.

On Thursday the defense offered witnesses to invalidat some of the State's evidence, but failed. Who the witnesses were, or what they said, a diligent search has failed to disclose.

Mr. Hurley then commenced pleading in behalf of the State, at 4 o'clock, and closed that evening.

Mr. Davenport began on Friday morning, on behalf of the defendant, and closed at 2 p. m., when he was followed be Mr. P. H. Keck on behalf of the defendant, who closed his argument about 10 o'clock on Saturday morning. The Hon William G. Brown, for the State, followed, and spoke till o'clock p. m.

Judge Dille then delivered his charge to the jury, after which they retired. In about three quarters of an hour they returned into court, with a verdict against the prisoner of being guilty of arson, as he stood indicted.

The trial was over, and upon the mass of circumstantian evidence above given, as we find it reported, the jury had removed their verdict of guilty.

This evidence showed that Gregg had left Vankirk's Hotel in Kingwood, on Thursday morning, carrying a large pistol, that he passed through Reedsville with a jug which he said contained "sky-light oil;" that he arrived at Mr. John Guseman's that night, saying that he had started for Independence to work for a man whose name he had forgotten, and, having gotten off the road, had come to Mr. Guseman's to stay over night; he wanted Mr. Guseman to taste some wine he had in his jug, which one of Mr. Guseman's little girls; pouring out, found to be carbon oil. On Friday, morning, he paid no further heed to his work at Independence, but started for Morgantown to buy oats. That very evening he returned to Guseman's, and at the mill wanted to borrow a man's horse to go sparking that night. On Saturday morning, he left for Bruceton, and stopped to engage a lot of hoop-poles. He was before sundown, only nine miles from Kingwood, having crossed the river, and was now traveling, not toward Bruceton, but in the opposite direction, and toward Kingwood, having his jug of "sky-light oil" still with him. After dark, six miles farther on this road and only three miles from Kingwood, a man on horse-back was seen going toward Kingwood. Within two miles of Kingwood, between 8 and 9 o'clock, a man called at Mr. Teets's, to ask how far it was to Allen Fawcett's, but the man remaining in the road, Mr. Teets could not see who it was. The place was seen on Monday, one mile out on the Morgantown road, (which Gregg traveled in coming to Kingwood the previous Saturday,) and just to the left in the woods, near Allen Fawcett's, where a horse had been hitched for some time. The boots or shoes of the person who, had hitched the horse, were 7's or 8's, the soles containing round headed tacks, as shown by the tracks made in the snow. Gregg's boots would make a track corresponding to the tracks found where the horse was hitched. The person who hitched the horse had a vessel which he set down while hitching, as was shown by the impression left on the snow, and from which also it was supposed that the vessel was a

jug. The fire originated in or near the office of the clerk of the circuit court, which was on the second floor, and contained the records, whose destruction was the only means to prevent the sale of Gregg's land. Gregg arrived on Sunday morning, between 6 and 7 o'clock, from somewhere, nearly frozen, and said he had been out sparking; but he could not in trial, tell where, only stating that he was an honorable man in a dishonorable affair, and would not expose the woman with whom he had stayed.

The evidence of one witness was that Gregg swore he would burn Kingwood, and of another that the prisoner attempted to bribe him to swear that he (Gregg) had stayed with him on Saturday night. This long and strong chain of circumstantial evidence proved everything the State desired, except the act of the prisoner applying the match to the inflammable substance in his possession.

On Wednesday morning, July 21st, 1869, Gregg was brought into the court, and requested to stand up. He was then asked if he had anything to say why judgment should not be passed upon him. He said he had; that he was not guilty; and then made a long speech in which he requested that "all the lawyers, judges, and all the officers of the court should turn out as ministers of the Gospel."

Judge Dille then pronounced the following sentence: "The termination of this important State trial has been reached—the jury have finished their protracted and unpleasant investigations, and found the prisoner guilty as charged in the indictment, and it only remains for the court to render its judgment under the law upon the verdict of the jury. However unpleasant the duty, society and a violated law require that it be performed."

"You, Elihu Gregg, have been indicted by a grand jury of this county—you have been tried by an unprejudiced and impartial jury of your county—aided in your defense by able and experienced counsel, who did every thing for you that could be done, to persuade your triers that you were innocent of the offense charged against you; but after a patient and full investigation of your case, the jury have found you guilty—guilty of willfully, maliciously and feloniously burning the Court-house of this county, whereby the dwelling-house of Peter Voltz and Hiram Wankirk were burned, being occupied at the time of the burning—an offense under the law of a most henious character, and one to which the law (at the time the offense was committed) attached the penalty of death.

"I need not admonish you to meet the punishment prescribed by the law-your own good sense must have convinged you before this that your days on earth are few, short and precious, and that it becomes you, a sa rational, intelligent and immortal being, to spend the remnant of your days on earth for preparing for that world of spirits into which you will soon be launched. Dream not, I beseech you, that death is an eternal sleep. I beg you regard death as only the commencement of an eternal future, and that you will awake in the eternal world to a life of bliss or wretchedness. and immortality are brought to light in the Gospel. In that precious Book the depravity of man is taught, his elevation and redemption through the atoning blood of the Son of God, and the door of repentance is opened to the most abandoned. But diligence is necessary, nay it is indispensable—work while it is day, as you have but a short time to live and a great work is to be accomplished in the space of a few short weeks. You are commended to the grace, mercy and goodness of God, and let me urge you, that immediately on your return to your prison, you send for some pious divine—a good man -to pray with and for you, and assist you in getting your house in order and preparing for the awful change that awaits you.

"The sentence which the law prescribes for the offense of arson (of which you have been found guilty by the jury, and the court now pronounces,) is this:

"That you be taken from hence to the jail of this county, from whence you came, and from thence to the place of execution, and on the 3rd day of September, 1869, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 3 p. m. of that day, be there hanged

by the neck until you are dead; and may God have mercy upon your soul."

During all the time the judge was pronouncing the sentence the prisoner remained calm, and listened to the words of death as they fell from the judge's lips without the exhibition of any emotion whatevers. The doom pronounced upon him, he heard absolutely unmoved.

To the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia Gregg's counsel applied for a writ of error, upon eight bills of exception, taken during the progress of the trial. The third bill of exceptions was, that after the jury was sworn, the court ordered all witnesses to retire from the court-room, and that Henry Boger, who was in the room during a part of the trial, was afterward called by the defendant as a witness, but was not allowed to testify on account of thus hearing a part of the evidence. The fourth bill of exceptions alleged that the defendant offered in evidence to the jury his certificate of protection in bankruptcy, dated November 16, 1868, to rebut the testimony introduced by the State, that his motive in burning the Court-house was to save his land from sale, and the only means by which he could prevent its being sold. In their fifth bill, the defendant's counsel held that the counts of the indictment charged no crime or offense, and that the jury had no right to regard any evidence for the State under them. The seventh was, that the jury did not find in their verdict what punishment was to be inflicted, and hence the court could not render any judgment or impose any sentence upon the defendant. "The eighth bill was taken, because the court sentenced the defendant to the death penalty."

Upon the third and fourth bills of exceptions, the Court of Appeals, Judge R. L. Berkshire dissenting as to the fourth bill, issued a writ of error and supersedeas, reversed the judgment of the inferior court, set aside the verdict of the jury, and remanded the cause for a new trial.

At the time of the fire, the office of *The Preston County*Journal was in the Court-house, and all the material thereof
was destroyed by the fire. This paper was established by

Levi Klauser in Kingwood, on the 19th day of May, 1866. It was the first Republican, and the sixth, newspaper ever published in the county.

The board of supervisors, on the 28th day of August, 1869, passed an ordinance subscribing 100,000 dollars capital stock on behalf of Preston County, to aid in the construction of the "West Virginia Central Railroad," provided the people ratify the same by a vote to be taken on the fourth Thursday of October. The railway was to start at the Pennsylvania line, near Joseph Carrol's, and pass by the way of Brandonville, the mouth of Muddy Creek, and to Kingwood; thence to the junction of Three Fork and Racoon Creeks. At the October election, the people ratified the measure by a vote of 1186 for to 126 against the ordinance.

On the 11th day of October, 1869, that being the first day of the October term of the circuit court of Preston County, Elihu Gregg was again indicted for burning the Court-house, and placed on trial. The following jury was impanneled: Ebenezer Liston, Elijah Messenger, William Shaw, Clark Sypolt, Henry Knight, David O. Feather, Isaac P. Martin, David Nine, George H. Trembly, George S. Martin, Philip Mahon and Philip Buckalew. Gregg's counsel, Messrs. Davenport and Keck, not being present, the court assigned Gustavus Cresap as counsel for the prisoner. The prosecution was represented by the Hon. William G. Brown, James A. Brown, and James H. Carroll. The testimony introduced was the same as on the previous trial. The defense did not call Boger to the witness-stand.

Mr. Cresap made an eloquent speech, imploring mercy for Gregg, and claiming that they had no direct evidence to convict him, and giving instances where circumstantial evidence had convicted innocent men. Messrs. Davenpert and Keckarrived the next day, and made a more aggressive fight for Gregg, which many think was not as wise a course as Mr. Cresap's. The Hon. William G. Brown made a long and able argument on the part of the prosecution, and was followed by. Davenport in a powerful effort for Gregg. He, in turn.

was followed by James A. Brown, upon the part of the State, in a telling speech.

On Tuesday morning, October 21st, 1869, the jury came in with a verdict of guilty. The old law making the act of burning a building used as a dwelling, a capital offense, was changed, and the punishment for the crime was made death or imprisonment for life, at the discretion of the jury. And, accordingly, when Gregg was brought into the Court on Wednesday morning, October 22, 1869, before pronouncing sentence upon him, Judge Dille explained to the prisoner that he could choose between death and confinement in the penitentiary during the remainder of his natural life. Gregg, summoning up all his bravery, rose and, in a guttural tone of voice, and with an affected theatrical manner, said, "Give me liberty, or give me death," and took his seat.

It only remained for the judge to pronounce sentence of death, as the prisoner had refused to accept imprisonment for life. Gregg was ordered to stand up by Judge Dille, and asked if he "had aught to say why sentence of death should not be pronounced upon him." The stillness of death pervaded the crowded court-room. All eyes were upon the prisoner. Deliberately he rose and, to the astonishment of every one, launched out into a long speech, entirely irrelevant to the subject and the occasion. He told the judge that the people of the United States had reared monuments to Washington, to Patrick Henry, to Henry Clay, to all the great and distinguished men of the Nation, and he wanted the people to show their appreciation of the Christian religion by erecting a monument to Jesus Christ, that would surpass in magnificence and grandeur all other monuments on the face of the earth.

The judge finally called him to order, and pronounced upon him the sentence of death, and fixed the 28th day of January, 1870, as the day upon which he was to be hanged. Gregg was taken back to the jail and placed in a cell with Bazel Simpson, who was under indictment for robbing Tutt & Feltner's store in Evansville, in 1861. Gregg and Simpson had occupied this cell for two or three months, and ey-

ery few nights after Simpson became an occupant of the cell, Gregg would have his handcuffs and hobbles sawed off and be walking around in the morning in his cell free from all fetters. The jailer could find no tools with which the work had been done. Daniel R. Jackson and Elisha Brown were appointed to make a thorough search of the jail and the prisoners, which they did, and could find nothing. Simpson asked them when they were through whether they thought there were any tools in the jail, and upon being answered very emphatically in the negative by Mr. Brown, he very coolly drew out a long fine steel saw from its place of concealment in the brim of his hat.

Guards were placed in the jail at night, but Gregg and Simpson were still allowed to occupy the same cell.

On the night of Monday, November 1st, 1869, four guards were placed in the jail. They roomed in a cell across the hall and opposite the one occupied by Gregg and his lightfingered friend. A. B. Menear and Jacob Huffman were on watch till midnight, when their places were taken by George S. Martin and James W. Holt. The guards had access to the hall, but could not enter the cell of the prisoners, it being locked and the key in the possession of the jailer. When it was light enough to see it was discovered that the prisoners had escaped. Gregg and Simpson had taken up a board in the floor under their bed, and burned or boxed off a sleeper. They then dug a hole clear across under their cell to the wall of the jail, which they undermined. This subterranean passage was just large enough to admit one of them at a time, and through it they escaped. From all appearances, they must have been at work for a couple of weeks or a month. Gregg's choice of death at his second trial was a surprise to everybody, and was supposed to be an exhibition of mere Stoicism; but it would seem from this underground passage, then under headway, that Gregg's strange choice was made in the belief of his ability to escape by it before the day fixed for his execution.

Upon the discovery of the flight of the prisoners, the citi-

zens turned out and searched the surrounding country for miles, but failed to find them. As Gregg was a vindictive man, and had made threats that if he ever regained his liberty, he would burn the town of Kingwood, a long and careful search was made for him, but without avail.

Gregg, shortly after his escape, it is said, sent a letter back to Levi Klauser, then the editor of *The Preston County Journal*, in which he stated that money let him out, and expressed his regret at not being able to be at Kingwood on the 28th of January, as business would detain him. It has never yet transpired whether Gregg obtained aid from the outside or not in making his escape.

We shall not dismiss Gregg, as the chronological order would demand here. Going forward nearly ten years, we find the grey-haired, iron-willed old man again playing a part in the history of the county.

After spending several years in the West and Canada (so he claimed), Gregg came back to his daughter's, Mrs. J. H. Alfee's, near Rice's Landing, Greene County, Penna, in December, 1877. Hearing of his presence over there, the authorities of Preston got a requisition from Governor Mathews upon the governor of Pennsylvania, for the arrest of Gregg, and made arrangements, through F. M. Ford, sheriff, and William G. Worley, prosecuting attorney, in May, 1878, with John G. Dinsmore, then sheriff of Greene County, for the apprehension of Gregg. Sheriff Dinsmore was placed in posession of a warrant issued by Governor Hartranft of his State, upon the requisition made upon him by Governor. Although Gregg had made loud threats that he. never would be taken alive, yet Sheriff Dinsmore apprehended him quite easily, and without any resistance from Gregg. On the 29th of October, 1878, Mr. Dinsmore went alone to the house of Gregg's son-in-law, Mr. J. H. Alfee, and there found his man. Having had considerable business transactions with Mr. Alfee previously, the officer's presence created no suspicion, and the sheriff was formally introduced to Gregg. They all indulged in a friendly conversation, during

which the subject of Gregg's arrest was referred to humorously. Presently, the sheriff and Gregg went out into the yard to view the beauties of nature in her brilliant autumn costume; and the officer took occasion very soon to inform Gregg that he should consider himself under arrest, and proceeded to read the warrant to him. The sheriff then searched the prisoner, and took from his pockets two or three loaded pistols, and took him to Waynesburg, where he was confined in the county jail. The authorities of this county were apprised of the arrest by telegraph; and Mr. Ford and Richard M. Nugent at once set out for Waynesburg; followed, in a few days, by Mr. Worley, who was summoned there by a dispatch from Mr. Ford.

As soon as possible after his arrest, Gregg communicated with his former counsel, the late George O. Davenport, of Wheeling, who immediately went to his assistance. petition was at once telegraphed to Governor Hartranft, praying for a suspension of the warrant issued by him, and which directed Sheriff Dinsmore to deliver Gregg to Sheriff Ford, the agent of this State. Before the party from this county reached Waynesburg, Sheriff Dinsmore had received a telegraphic dispatch from Governor Hartranft, directing him to "hold Elihu Gregg until further orders." Alleging that Mr. Menear, in 1869, arrested Gregg on Pennsylvania soil without a proper warrant, and forced him across the line into this State before reading to him the warrant-in fact, kidnapped him,—Gregg's counsel thereby induced Governor Hartranft to grant them a hearing before George Loar, the attorney general of Pennsylvania.

The hearing took place before the governor and the attorney-general, on the 20th of December (1878). This State was represented by the attorney-general, Col. Robert White, and the prosecuting attorney of this county, William G. Worley, while George O. Davenport, of Wheeling, and P. A. Knox and Gen. J. F. Temple, of Waynesburg, appeared for Gregg. It was not until some time in the following month that the governor of Pennsylvania rendered his decision, de-

clining to revoke the warrant, and again ordering Sheriff Dinsmore to deliver Gregg to the agent of this State. Gregg's counsel thereupon sued out a writ of habeas corpus. and Gregg was brought before Judge Wilson of the Common Pleas Court at Waynesburg. Gregg's counsel made a motion for his release, on the principal ground that he was illegally arrested. The court overruled the motion, in an able opinion, in which he reviewed the case and said that Gregg would have to be delivered up. But, Gregg's counsel asking for time to perfect further proceedings, the court adjourned the case till Monday, the 14th of April. On Friday, the 11th, Sheriff Ford, accompanied by Mr. Neil J. Fortney, started for Waynesburg, in obedience to a letter from Attorney-General White, in order to be on hand to receive Gregg when the court should order his surrender, as it was confidently believed it would do.

On Monday morning, April 14th (1879), Gregg was brought before Judge Wilson at Waynesburg. His counsel made a motion for a stay of proceedings in order to allow them to appeal the case to a higher court, but the motion was overruled, and Gregg, at last, was turned over to the authorities of this State. There was much excitement at Waynesburg. The court-room was filled with earnest spectators. Gregg seemed to have many friends among the baser sort of fellows, who made loud threats of their intention to release him by force. The officers thought it best to avoid publicity as much as possible; and Gregg was taken out of the rear door of the court-room to the carriage that was to convey the party to the railway station. going from the Court-house to the carriage, a distance of about one hundred feet, Gregg resisted very considerably, and called upon the large crowd pressing hard upon the officers, to rescue him. The officers having him in charge were compelled to carry him to the vehicle. The carriage was driven at once to the station of the Waynesburg & Washington narrow-guage railway, where a special train was waiting to convey it to Washington, Pa., from which place they came by rail to Wheeling, where Gregg was placed in jail, the county prison of Preston not being deemed secure by Governor Mathews.

At Waynesburg, in the Court-house on the morning when Gregg was delivered up to the representatives of this State, he attempted to commit suicide by taking a dose of strychnia, having declared to his son-in-law that he never would go back to Virginia alive. He told the officers while yet at the Court-house, that he had taken poison; a physician was summoned, who, after examination, expressed his doubt of the truthfulness of Gregg's story. While on the train, going to Washington, Gregg took a small bottle from his pocket, and poured the contents of it upon a piece of apple, which he ate, He handed the empty bottle to Mr. Neil J. Fortney, who was sitting beside him, and said he had taken the rest of that poison. Thinking it was a trick of Gregg's, little attention was paid to his story, though he kept saying he would soon be a dead man. Presently, he was attacked with a severe spasm, which was repeated several times before the train reached Washington, where a physician, who had been summoned by telegraph to be in readiness upon the arrivalof the train, examined him. While the examination was making, Gregg had another spasm, and the doctor at once prépared an antidote, which he asked Gregg to take, telling him in answer to Gregg's question as to what the medicine was, that it would relieve him. Gregg refused to take the antidote, declaring that he wanted to die. It was then administered to him by force; and he had to be carried from the car. Gregg said that he got the poison in Ottawa County, Ill., five years before, for the purpose of killing "wicked animals," such as ferocious dogs that came in his way. He had kept it sewed up in his trousers; and intended, if he were ever arrested, to kill himself rather than to be taken back to Virginia.

A search of his person was made when he was committed to the Ohio County jail. A "rat-tail" file was found in the hem of his trousers, and in an old wallet were found two pieces of watch spring steel, which a little labor would have

the search was begun, "I ain't got nething—you can search me all over."

Gregg recovered from the effect of the doses of poison in a few days; and he remained in the jail at Wheeling until Thursday, October 2, 1879, when he was brought to Kingwood by Sheriff George R. Tirgle, of Ohio County, and his deputy, Mr. Mitchell, and delivered to Sheriff Ford. He was once more incarcerated in the Preston County jail.

On the next day the fall term of the circuit court of Preston County began, Judge John Brannon presiding. On the following Tuesday, he was brought into the court, and his counsel, Mr. Davenport, suggested that a writ of error was allowed in 1869 or '70. Judge Brannon postponed proceedings, in order to give time to ascertain whether such writ had been awarded. Having ascertained that the writ had not been allowed, Judge Brannon, on Friday, October 17, 1879, after having heard evidence of the identity of the prisoner, (who admitted that he was the veritable Elihu Gregg,) "directed, ordered and commanded" the sheriff of this county, "on Friday, the 6th day of February, in the year 1880, to execute the said order, judgment and sentence of death so pronounced on the said 21st day of October in the year 1869, in all respects as is directed thereby and otherwise as is, in such case, directed by law." And thus Elihu Gregg was sentenced to death for the third time.

In obedience to the order of Judge Brannon, Sheriff Ford and his deputy, J. Nelson Baker, took Gregg to Wheeling, where he was placed in jail.

Soon after, Mr. Davenport applied to the supreme court of appeals of the State for a writ of error; and on the 18th of December, 1880, the court refused the writ, as barred by the statute requiring that application for such writs shall be filed within five years.

A petition from the citizens of Preston, who did not wish Gregg hanged, but securely imprisoned for life, having been presented to Governor Mathews, he thereupon offered to Gregg was now about seventy years of age; and he refused the proffered executive favor by shouting his old battle-cry, "Give me liberty, or give me death!"

He, however, received an unconditional pardon from Governor Jacob B. Jackson, Governor Mathews's successor, on the eighth of April, 1881. Upon his liberation, Gregg returned to Greene County, Penna. This act of Governor Jackson met with the general indignation of the people of Preston County.

After the burning of the Court-house, the removal of the county-seat to Cranberry (Portland) was agitated. In this movement the people of Cranberry and, more or less, of the east side of Cheat, were very earnest; and a considerable sum of money was subscribed to aid in constructing the county buildings, should the county-seat be located at Cranberry. The board of supervisors met on the 27th of April, 1869, at Kingwood, and William H. Grimes, the member for Union District, offered the following resolution: "Resolved. That this board hereby deem it desirable to remove the county seat from Kingwood;" upon which resolution the yeas and nays were demanded. The demand being sustained, they were taken, and the yeas were: Messenger (of Portland), Grimes (of Union), Harader (of Grant), and Rigg (of Pleasant): nays—Pell (of Lyon), Conner (of Kingwood), Zinn (of Valley) and Bishop (president, of Reno).

Smith Crane was appointed to receive all moneys due from the Home Columbus and National Insurance companies, to Preston County, as insurance on the Court-house burned in March, 1869. The building was insured in these companies for about 8000 dollars.

The board authorized the president to appoint a committee of three to "superintend the building of the Court-house on the old location in Kingwood, provided that the same can be done without any taxation on the county except the cost of constructing fire-proof vaults in the clerk's and recorder's offices. The old material and the eight thousand dollars to be paid by the insurance companies, to be allowed the citizens of Kingwood, provided they rebuild the said Courthouse as aforesaid."

A good substantial wooden bridge was now being built over Cheat River at Albrightsville, in place of the wire-suspension bridge destroyed by the Confederates in 1863. The Hon. James C. McGrew, Francis Heermans, Reuben Morris and William B. Crane were the committee appointed to secure its construction. They contracted for its erection on the 6th day of January, 1869, with Daniel McKain, of Braddock's Fields, Pennsylvania, for the wood work, and H. H. Gribble and Henry Copeman for the masonry.

On the 3d of June, Robert McCafferty, Sanson W. Smalley and A. B. Menear contracted with the building committee to erect a Court-house (the present one), according to the plans and specifications, for the sum of eleven thousand dollars, and to have it completed by the first day of July, 1870.

During the latter part of this year (1869), considerable interest was manifested by the people of the southeastern part of the county in "The Randolph, Tucker and Preston Turnpike Company," which was incorporated on the 4th of March, 1869, and which proposed to build a road from Randolph, through Tucker, to West Union or Chisholm's Mills, in Preston County. Books for subscriptions were to be opened in Preston by A. D. Weills, Summers McCrum and Isaae Startzman.

The legislature of West Virginia, on the 28th of February, 1870, adopted a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution of the State, which, in substance amounted to the removal of all past political disabilities of all citizens arising out of participation in or sympathy with the late Rebellion. It was afterward adopted by a vote of the people, and is generally known as the Flick Amendment, from the fact that it was introduced by W. H. H. Flick.

The legislature, on the 2d day of March, 1870, abolished the office of township treasurer; and on the next day, incorporated the Cheat River Boom and Lumber Company, with Henry G. Davis, Charles M. Bishop, T. B. Davis, Charles Hooton, W. R. Davis and others as corporators.

Another decade had gone, and the Ninth Census of the United States, compiled from official returns, showed that the population of Preston County was as follows: whites. 14,437: colored, 118; total population, 14,555.

The county contained 1497 farms; 102,006 acres of improved, and 176,050 of unimproved land in farms—the cash value of which was estimated at \$2,541,651, with 95.024 dollars' worth of farming implements and machinery.

Of horses the county had 3596; 32 mules, 4526 milch cows, 187 working oxen, and 6236 other cattle; 22.336 sheep; 6703 swine—the value of all of which was estimated at \$613.369.

The county produced during the year ended June 1, 1870. 33,390 bushels of winter, and 309 bushels of spring, wheat: 145,04 bushels of Indian corn, 20,531 bushels of rye, 27,346 of buckwheat, 61 bushels of barley, and 189,070 bushels of oats: 1673 pounds of tobacco, 53,388 of wool: 1069 bushels of peas and beans, 24,063 of Irish potatoes, 391 of sweet potatoes, 193,233 pounds of butter, 110 of cheese: 11,961 tons of hay; 141 bushels of clover seed, 112 bushels of other grass seeds; 200 pounds of hops, 2222 of flax, 101 bushels flaxseed; 6671 pounds maple sugar, 626 gallons of maple molasses, 8521 gallons of sorghum molasses, 709 pounds beeswax, 13,932 pounds of honey; and 74 gallons of wine. The value of orchard products was \$24,706. The value of home-made manufactures was \$23,163.

The assessed value of real estate, \$1,919,823; personal property, \$1,695,754; total assessed value, 3,525,577: true value, \$5,871,378.

The State tax was \$14,125; county, \$16,689. The bonded debt of the county was \$10,000.

Statistics of mining: Two bituminous coal mines, employing 377 hands; capital, \$163,000; wages paid, \$98,500:

cost of material, \$5500; products, 88,000 tons, whose value was \$140,000.

Statistics of manufacture: 97 mechanical and manufacturing establishments, running 22 steam engines and 38 water wheels and employing 1100 hands; capital, \$535,625; wages paid, \$199,895; cost of material, \$242,782: products, \$532,407.

Selected statistics of manufactures:—establishments—iron pigs, 2; leather tanning, 10; lumber sawing, 19; woolen goods, 4; total capital, \$578,100; wages paid, \$184,675; products, \$408,895.

Vital Statistics:—Preston County is in a district where from 1400 to 2000 out of every 10,000 deaths are of consumption, while less than 100 out of every 10,000 deaths are from malarial diseases.

The Preston County. Herald was established by James H. Carrell, on the 22d day of October, 1870, in Kingwood, and was the fourth Democratic, and the seventh, newspaper published in the county.

The legislature, on the 28th of February, 1871, passed an act, entitled "An act to supply the lost records of Prestor County." The circuit court was authorized to appoint commissioners to supply, as for as possible, the records destroyed by the burning of the Court-house.

On the same day two more acts of interest to Preston were passed—one authorizing the extension of the Iron Valley Railroad from Irondele, by Morgantown, to the Pennsylvania State line. George Hardman and D. Randolph Martin were authorized to make this extension; and the other, incorporating the Iron Valley and Pennsylvania Line Railroad, to run from where Big Sandy crosses the Pennsylvania line (near Jonas Maust's), by way of Brandonville, Bruceton, the mouth of Green's Run, near Kingwood, and Martin's Iron works, so as to intersect the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at or east of the mouth of Racoon Creek. Among the incorporators of the road, were George Maust, Thomas Scott, Charles Kantner, John Harader, H. C. Hagans, Joseph Feather, John D. Rigg,

David Morgan, Joseph H. Gibson, James W. Brown, William Albright, Charles E. Brown, Francis Heermans, William G. Brown, James C. McGrew, Smith Crane, James H. Carroll, William B. Zinn, Joseph Guseman, Reason A. Pell, George Hardman, Robert W. Monroe, George Orr, S. L. Allen, J. R. Smoot and Joseph Jackson. The capital stock of the company was to be two million dollars, to be divided into shares of one hundred dollars each. The company was empowered to increase their capital if necessary, and authorized to borrow money and issue bonds therefor, to accept and receive donations in lands or money from the Congress of the United States, or any other source, for the purpose of constructing the road. They were to commence the road in two, and have it completed in six, years from the passage of the act.

During this year (1871), the board of supervisors, considering the stone jail unsafe for the keeping of prisoners, appointed Thomas Scott, William H. King, John S. Murdock, Robert McCafferty, Benjamin Royse, and Francis Heermans commissioners to contract for the building of a new brick jail. These commissioners let the contract to Robert McCafferty and A. B. Menear, for the sum of \$6165; and the jail was to be completed by August, 1872.

On the 4th Thursday in August (1871), the people of West Virginia voted upon the question of calling a convention "to alter" the constitution of the State. The proposition carried, and, on the same day, the Hon. William G. Brown and Charles Kantner were elected by the voters of Preston delegates to this convention.

The constitutional convention met in the city of Charleston, then the Capital of the State, on the 3d Tuesday of January. 1872, and the Hon. Samuel Price, formerly a resident of Preston County, was elected president of the body, and served through the session, which closed on the 9th of April, 1872.

The members from Preston, Messrs. Brown and Kantner, took an active part in its proceedings.

The constitution framed by this convention and submitted to the people, proposed a great many changes in the organic law of the State. The board of supervisors was abolished, and in its place the old county court was substituted. "Townships" were changed to "districts," "a distinction without a difference," and minor changes were made in the free school system.

The new constitution was submitted to the people on August 22, 1872, and was ratified.

On the 26th of February, 1872, the legislature amended the act of 1871 incorporating the Iron Valley and Pennsylvania Line Railroad. The amendment provided that if 2000 shares of the capital stock were subscribed, or a sufficient amount to build the road from the Pennsylvania line to the town of Bructon, within three years, work on the road was to commence, and to be finished in seven years from the passage of the act.

The legislature, on the 29th of March, 1873, passed an act providing for a preliminary survey of the Iron Valley and Pennsylvania Line Railroad. It authorized the company to employ a skillful and competent civil engineer to select and survey the most eligible and practical route for the construction of a railroad in the direction of the above road through the County of Preston, to connect the travel from the Pittsburg, Washington & Baltimore Railroad to that of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. To carry out the provisions of this act a thousand dollars was appropriated, which was drawn, used and accounted for by the company. John A. Dalrymple was employed as chief engineer to make the survey. In his report of August 27th, 1873, addressed to the Hon. William G. Brown, C. M. Bishop, Francis Heermans, James W. Brown and Joseph H. Gibson (the committee appointed to have the survey made), he says: "Beginning on the southern boundary line of Pennsylvania, at its intersecsion of Big Sandy Creek, the experimental line of this road was traced down Big Sandy to Bruceton, and near Brandon ville; thence up Conner's Run and across the ridge, near John Michael's house, to Michael's Run; down that run to the bottom-land on Little Sandy Creek, across the valley of Little Sandy to Webster's Run; up that stream and Parson's Run, to the dividing ridge between the waters of Little Sandy and the waters of Muddy Creek; across this ridge to Glade Run, crossing near Falkenstein's, and down Glade and Deep Hollow runs and Muddy Creek to Cheat River, touching the Landon Iron Works and crossing Cheat River near the mouth of Muddy Creek; thence up Green's Run, passing near Kingwood, and across the dividing ridge between Green's Run and Three Fork Creek, crossing at Miller's on the Morgantown Turnpike, and running down the middle branch of Three Fork to Hardman's Iron Works; thence to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, ending the survey at a point on the B. & O. R. R. 700 feet west of the mouth of Racoon Creek.

"The length of the line from the boundary line of Pennsylvania to the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad is forty miles. Cheat River is nineteen and one-third miles from the Pennsylvania line.

"In crossing the dividing ridge between Parson's run and Glade run, near Falkenstein's, the middle route was taken. There are three routes across this ridge; the one taken is the most direct, and will require a tunnel 200 feet less than a half-mile in length, which is the only tunnel on the whole route. This ridge cannot be passed at any point without a tunnel.

"Passing through a mountainous region, some doubts have existed as regards the practicability of the route. Those doubts were without foundation, and the result of the survey is, that the route is practicable. The course of the streams can not be followed in all parts of the location, but the route surveyed is practicable, with a grade of 80 feet to the mile as a maximum grade; if, upon locating the line, the engineer should think that grade preferable to a heavier one. Eighty feet to the mile can be passed over without the use of locations as helpers. A heavier grade would shorten the dis-

tance, but would require either helpers or loads in proportion to the grade. The heavier the grade, the lighter the loads.

"The minimum grade will be thirteen feet to the mile, that being the fall of Big Sandy Creek. That part of the line is of easy construction, the grade being light and the bottoms along the creek requiring but little grading. The location across the valley of Little Sandy and along the upper part of Glade run, the lower part of Three Fork and Green's run, between Kingwood and Albright's Mill, will also require but little grading. Those parts of the line embrace about fifteen miles.

"The following altitudes taken from the profile accompanying this report, to which I respectfully refer you, are calculated above tide water: Pennsylvania line, 1628 feet above tide water; Bruceton, 1553; Michael's Summit, 1738; Little Sandy, 1585; Falkenstein's Summit, 2109; Landon Iron Works, 1396; Cheat River, 1188; Kingwood, 1750; Duvall's Summit, 2309; Morgantown Turnpike, 2251; mouth of Bird's Creek, mouth of Middle Branch, mouth of Field's Creek, all making Three Fork Creek, 1312; Hardman's Iron-Works, 1202; Balto. & Ohio R. R., 1109—Duvall's point being the highest, and the Balto. & Ohio R. R., the lowest.

"The region passed through is rich in coal, iron, fire-clay and timber. The coal-field is extensive, being one continuous field throughout the whole length of the route. The coal is found in three strata; one of 8 feet, one of four feet, and a small one 18 inches; the stratum of 8 feet being the lowest, and the one of 18 inches, the highest in the geological formation. It is bituminous, of superior quality, making good coke and yielding by analysis, 10,000 cubic feet of gas to the ton of 2240 pounds.

The iron ores are of three kinds: the red hematite, the brown hematite, and the corbonate of iron or spathic iron ore, commonly called carbon ore, and found in five separate strata, varying in thickness from one to four feet, and yielding from 33 to 82 per cent of iron. The carbon ore is a valuable ore, yielding from 40 to 60 per cent of metal and found

in strata in large masses and producing an iron particularly adapted to the manufacture of steel.

"Limestone is found in abundance. The fire-clay is of superior quality. The timber, consisting in large part of poplar, white oak, and pine, is of large and thrifty growth. The lands are cheap, and invite the attention of capitalists.

"The water power afforded by Cheat River, a short distance below the mouth of Muddy Creek, is great, and that afforded by the various streams along the route, is large and in the aggregate great.

"Kingwood, Brandonville and Bruceton are situated in well-known large and thriving agricultural sections, in which are cultivated the various cereals of this latitude, and in which are also raised for the Eastern markets, cattle, horses and sheep.

"On the bottom lands of Cheat River, at the mouth of Muddy Creek, and, also, on the bottom land of Three Fork, near the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, where the survey ends, are good sites for towns. At these points when the coal, iron ore, fire-clay and timber along the route are put to practical use and the road constructed, will spring up flourishing manufacturing towns. Capital and labor will be in requisition and conduce to the general prosperity—capital by its usefulness, labor by its industry."

Efforts were made after this report to secure the necessary capital to build the road, and various plans were proposed and discussed, but no action was attempted on any of them until the next year.

In this year (1873) on July 10, the county court determined the question as to what should constitute the districts of the county, and by what names they should be known and called, as follows: "It is unanimously ordered that the present sub-divisions of the county by townships shall constitute the districts thereof, and shall be called and known as follows: Grant Township as Grant District, Pleasant Township as Pleasant District, Portland Township as Portland District, Union Township as Union District, Reno Township as Reno

District, Lyon Township as Lyon District, Valley Township as Valley District, and Kingwood Township as Kingwood District.

The year 1873 closed in Preston County with very discouraging prospects. The panic was closing down public works, and men were idle on account of nothing being done. The county was prosecuting an unsuccessful suit, so far, against the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company for taxes due from the company upon the assessed value of their property in the county, consisting of the thirty-three miles of their road and the rolling stock thereon. This suit had been carried on so far with considerable expense to the tax-payers, while at the same time the county was paying interest on a bonded debt of \$14,000.

On Wednesday, the 7th day of January, 1874, the county court granted the overseers of the poor authority to purchase a farm, at some convenient place in the county, suitable for the use of the poor; also, to sell and convey the lands heretofore acquired and now owned for that purpose; provided, that the farm so purchased should not cost more than five thousand dollars.

On the same day, the court appointed J. C. McGrew, C. M. Bishop and C. W. B. Allison as commissioners to confer with the proper agents or attorneys of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at such time and place as should be most convenient for such commissioners, when requested so to do by said agents or attorneys, and receive such propositions as they desire to make relative to the adjustment of taxes on the B. and O. R. R., and report their proceedings to the court, But no authority was granted said commissioners to compromise with the said B. and O. R. R., for said taxes. Mr. Allison, now deceased, was a well-known lawyer of Wheeling, and was chief of counsel for Preston County in her suit against the railroad.

On the 11th of September, the auditor having certified to the court the value of the property of the B. & O. R. R., in the county assessed for the year 1874 for taxation at five hundred and fifty-one thousand dollars, the court thereupon proceeded to apportion the same between the several
districts through which the said road passes, and ordered
the apportionment to be as follows, to wit: Lyon District,
6 miles, one hundred and six thousand six hundred and
seventy-three dollars and sixty cents; Kingwood District,
three and a half miles, sixty-two thousand two hundred and
seven dollars and ninety cents; Reno District, five and one
half miles, ninety-seven thousand seven hundred and fortyseven dollars and forty cents; Portland District, twelve and
one half miles, two hundred and twenty thousand one hundred and sixty-three dollars and twenty cents; Union District, sixty-two thousand two hundred and seven dollars and
ninety cents.

The Iron Valley and Pennsylvania Line Railroad was still a subject of discussion. One of the plans proposed to secure capital to build it was for the county court to submit to a vote of the people a proposition for the county to subscribe a sum sufficient with what individual subscriptions were received, to build the road. The question was argued before the court, which refused to submit the question to a vote of the people.

Messrs. McGrew, Bishop and Allison, the commissioners appointed to meet the commissioners of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, proceeded to Baltimore and had a conference with them; but Mr Allison was personally objectionable for some reason to some of the railroad officials, and they failed to come to any definite understanding. On the 8th of July, 1875, the court rescinded the resolution for the appointment of the above-named commissioners, so as to drop Mr. Allison; and it was ordered that James C. McGrew and C. M. Bishop be appointed commissioners to confer with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company touching the matter of taxes due from the said company to the county or any of the districts thereof, including the assessments and levies for that year. The commissioners were clothed with full and ample power and authority to make a full and final settlement—arrange

and agree upon a permanent basis of all future assessments and levies on subjects of taxation owned or that might be owned by the said Baltimore & Ohio Railroad within the limits of Preston County. These commissioners were successful in obtaining a compromise, which was effected by them with Caleb Boggess, acting for the road. This arrangement was made in Kingwood; and on Tuesday, January 6, 1876, the court approved and entered record the compromise, according to which the sum of \$18,000 was accepted in full discharge of all taxes and levies assessed or claimed to be due from the said company, including county, township and district levies for the year 1874, and each and every year prior thereto; and that the taxable property of the said company should be valued and estimated for assessment and taxation at the aggregate sum of \$332,000 as an annual basis of taxation after 1874.

Hard times still continuing, with but little prospect of getting better, this compromise was considered by many as a good financial measure for the interests of the county. With the \$18,000 received the bonded debt of \$10,000 was paid off, and the county had a surplus of \$7500 left over for any future contingency. The county levy had been running in '73 and '74 at 72 to 83 cents on the \$100, but was now reduced to 18 or 20 cents.

The Centennial year opened with brightened prospects financially for the county, and many hoped for a speedy resumption of general business.

About the first of June, 1876, Dr. W. R. Potter consulted with his neighbors of Kingwood, about the propriety of calling a meeting to consider the matter of celebrating the Centennial Fourth of July. The *Journal* and *Herald* published a call for a meeting of the citizens at the Courthouse on Saturday evening, June 10. The meeting assembled as called, and elected the Rev. Dr. Prettyman chairman and John H. Holt secretary. The unamious voice of the meeting was in favor of a celebration befitting the occasion. An executive committee of fifteen was appointed to take

charge of the matter. This committee was composed of the following persons: Charles E. Brown (chairman), J. H. Holt, F. Heermans, William M. O. Dawson, J. H. Carroll, Jacob Basnett, Joseph Jackson, Dr. W. R. Potter, Peter Voltz, James A. Brown, C. M. Bishop, the Rev. F. Elliott. Elisha Thomas and Dr. R. B. L. Trippett. The following preamble was placed at the head of the programme: "Agreeable to the proclamation of the President of the United States, the citizens of preston county are requested to meet at the Court-house in Kingwood, on the Fourth of July, 1876, for the purpose of celebrating the Centennial Anniversary of our National Independence, at which time an historical sketch of the county and its towns will be read by the Hon. William G. Brown." The Hon. Charles J. Faulk ner was engaged to deliver the oration, but found it impossible to be present. But a few days before the event, he wrote the committee that it would be impossible for him to be present.

The following full account of the celebration we take from The Preston County Journal of July 8, 1876. The head-lines over the account were, "The Centennial Fourth! How It Was Celebrated.—The County Celebration at Kingwood, July 4th, 1876."

"Conscious of the fact that what we shall very hastily write under this heading, will perhaps be turned to a hundred years from now—at the next Centennial—to see how high the patriotism of the people of Preston ran a hundred years after the promulgation of that grandest of all political documents—grand in thought, grand in expression of it, and sublime in motive,—we can but regret our limited time and space.

"The Fourth came on Tuesday, but the air was full of it on Monday. All was a bustle of preparation. The 'Centennial Guards,' in their beautiful uniform, were drilling, the martial bands were playing, flags in abundance were waving, and had an inhabitant of another planet dropped suddenly into the world on Monday, he would have guessed that we were on the eve of some great event.

"Tuesday morning was cloudless, and the day dawned auspiciously. A salute fired at 6 o'clock by the Centennial Guards (Capt. J. E. Murdock's military company, for which he procured muskets in Wheeling), ushered in the day.

"At 15 minutes to 9 o'clock the splendid bell on the Court-house began to ring and for a quarter of an hour every bell in town pealed forth in joyous clang the birth of the Second Century of American Independence.

'Bells of joy! on morning's wing Sent the song of praise abroad! With a sound of broken chains Told the nations that He reigns, Who alone is Lord and God!'

"Then to the music of the Mozart Brass Band of Kingwood and the Gribble Martial Band, of Grant District, the crowd began to gather at the Court-house, and the people from every part of the county poured in, some afoot, some on horseback, and some in buggies and in all kinds of wheeled vehicles. Shortly after, a monster delegation from the east side came up via Albrightsville, marched up Main Street, turned down Price, up High, up Tunnelton, turned around, and were soon joined by the delegation from the Glades. Then the procession, commanded by the Hon. C. M. Bishop, Col. Jno. D. Rigg, and Col. Isaiah Kirk, Marshals of the Day, formed and marched down High Street to the Copeman Grove, in the following order:

Color-bearer.

Ministers and Orators of the Day.

The Mozart Brass Band, beautifully uniformed, in their splendid Band wagon, drawn by six horses.

The Gribble Martial Band.
The Centennial Guards.
Footmen.
Carriages and Horsemen.

"By actual count there were over 1300 people in the procession, and it reached from the Court-house to the grove.

"After arriving at the grove, the order of exercises commenced, the speakers being introduced by the Hon. James C. McGrew, by the playing of 'Mocking Bird' by the brass band, followed with a selection by the martial band. Then the Rev. Dr. Prettyman read the xxii chapter of II Samuel. beginning with the words in the second verse, 'The Lord is my rock, and my fortress,' which was followed by a most eloquent prayer by the Rev. Henry G. Blayney. 'Hail Columbia,' by the brass band. The Hon. James C. McGrew then delivered a short address, closing with words of welcome, followed by 'Bonnie Jean,' by the brass band. Next, Whittier's Centennial Hymn was read by our young townsman, Mr. John Homer Holt, and the brass band played 'Battle Cry of Freedom.'

"Never before did we hear the Declaration of Independence so well delivered as it was by Prof. George N. Glover. Certainly, he is an accomplished rhetorician. And then the crowd's enthusiasm was augmented by 'Yankee Doodle,' by the brass band. Then the Hon. William G. Brown read his historical Sketch, which is published elsewhere entire, the brass band discoursed 'Old Hundred,' and the Rev. Dr. F. Elliott pronounced the benediction.

"Dinner! There were 550 feet of table, and around it the crowd formed a line, at some places twenty-five persons deep, and the waiters dispensed the food, until every man, woman, and child had enough.

"Dinner over, the crowd gave themselves up to such amusements as each one wished. Some went down to the platform, just outside the enclosure, where the dancing was: some gathered around the speakers' stand where the bands played; while others engaged in conversation."

The Hon. James C. McGrew, who was selected by the committee to deliver the opening address, spoke as follows:

"My Friends: The Committee of Arrangements have made it my duty to speak to you words of welcome to this Centennial gathering. These words are to be few and simple, but earnest and sincere.

"Near four hundred years age, towards the close of an autumn day, a traveler well advanced in years, weary and footsore, stood at the gate of a Franciscan monastery in Andalusia, begging for some bread for his little boy whom he led by the hand, and who was crying from hunger. The superior of the convent, struck by the noble appearance of the stranger, entered into conversation with him, and, becoming interested, invited him to rest. That way-worn traveler was Christopher Columbus. For ten long years he had urged upon the attention of King John of Portugal his theory, and his plans for reaching India by sailing to the west, and in soliciting from the Court of Lisbon, aid to carry his project into execution. Disgusted at last with his want of success, he secretly left the capital accompanied by his little son Diego, and on foot, took the road to Spain, hoping to be more successful at the Court of Ferdinand and Isabella, than he had been at that of John.

"Eight years thereafter, on the 3d day of August, 1492, Columbus, in command of three small ships, the Santa Maria, the Nina and the Pinta, sailed from the roadstead of Saltez near Palos, an obscure seaport on the Mediterranean, on his long projected voyage of discovery. Sailing westwardly, he soon entered an unknown and unexplored sea Unaccustomed to voyage far from land, the superstitious fears of the sailors were soon awakened, and many of them wept, and declared that they should not live to return to Spain. For weeks his ships continued to penetrate farther and farther into that mysterious sea, his crews dissatisfied and turbulent, and sometimes almost breaking out into open mutiny, compelling their commander to resort to various devices to conceal the progress of the ships, and allay their fears.

"At length, when they had been seventy-one days at sea, and Columbus was under an extorted promise to turn the bows of his ship towards Spain, should land not be discovered in ten hours, and when all were anxiously straining their vision towards the western horizon, on the 12th of October, 1492, Rodrigo Friana, a sailor on board the *Pinta*, was the

first who saw the new world, and thereby become entitled to the 'silken doublet' promised by Columbus and the 10,000 merivedis guaranteed by Isabella to the person who should first set eyes upon the land. But Columbus never saw the main land of the American Continent. His discoveries extended no farther than the Caribbean Sea, which he named the West Indies. And it is an interesting fact, that to the day of his death, he persisted in the belief that those new islands were a part of Cathay or Farther India.

"Amerigo Vespucci, following presently in the track of Columbus, seems first to have perceived in these western regions a New World; and thus succeeded in giving to the country his own name, that of America.

"But, in fact, the Continent was first seen by neither Columbus nor Vespucci, but to the Cabots belongs the historical honor of having, first of the Europeans, seen the main-land of the Western Continent.

"One hundred and twenty-eight years pass slowly away, and yet but little is known of this New World lying far to the west of Europe.

"On a dreary December day in the year 1620, a little band of pilgrims who had fled from the religious intolerance and persecution then prevailing in Western Europe, landed on a granite boulder on the shore of Massachusetts bay, and there, in that inhospitable region, amidst discouragements and hardships almost intolerable, they planted deeply the tree of political and religious freedom, under whose branches the happy millions of American free men and free women meet to-day.

"More than a century and a half goes by; and the two or three feeble Colonies which had a precarious foothold on the shores of the New World at the beginning of the Seventeenth Century, had increased to thirteen, and the few thousand inhabitants to three millions. But the tree of liberty was not allowed to flourish and bear its full measure of fruit unassailed, nor without constant and careful culture.

"The Colonies, acknowledging allegiance to the British crown, soon discovered that the King and the Parliament had

but little respect for Colonial rights; and it was early apparent to the representative men of the country, that if these rights were maintained, it must be by the united action and co-operation of all the Colonies. Accordingly, in the month of September, 1774, the first Continental Congress, composed of delegates from all the Colonies except Georgia, assembled in the City of Philadelphia. Amongst its first acts was the promulgation of a declaration of 'Colonial Rights,' in which it was claimed that the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property, were natural rights, and the privilege of being bound by no law to which they had not consented by their Representatives, was claimed for the Colonists in their character as British subjects, and the sole and exclusive power of legislation for the Colonies was declared to reside in their respective assemblies. These just demands were imperiously and insultingly denied by the Crown and Parliament of Great Britain, and the right to tax the Colonies without their consent, and without the right of representation or remonstrance, and to carry their citizens beyond the seas to be tried for imaginary offences, were insisted upon.

"These differences were irreconcilable, and the Continental Congress was not long in reaching the conclusion that, in order to secure *Liberty*, they must strike for *Independence* as well. The conflict could not long be delayed, and Lexington and Concord hastened the final grand event.

"On the 4th of July, 1776, one hundred years ago to-day, in the State House in the City of Philadelphia, where teeming multitudes from the four quarters of the earth are to-day assembled as witnesses of the power and glory of our Nation, that glorious declaration to which you will soon have the pleasure of listening, was made to the whole world, 'that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain, is, and ought to be totally dissolved.'

"To that bold act of the Continental Congress, more than

to any other one, do the people of the United States of America owe their deliverance from British thralldom, and the free and liberal institutions they now possess.

'Is it not, then, very fitting and proper, that we come together on this 4th day of July, in the year of grace 1876, that we may in common with the millions who inhabit this free land, unite in commemorating an event, some of the benign effects of which have blessed our country for a century, and are blessing us to-day, but the ultimate results of which upon the nations of the earth, the wisest cannot forsee, and which are destined to be seen and felt and acknowledged in human affairs, as long as humanity exists upon the earth?

"Then, my friends, let us be glad, and rejoice together in what our Revolutionary Fathers, a hundred years ago achieved for our country, for us, and our posterity, and for mankind. Let us rejoice in our freedom and Union; in our arts and industries; in our fields and mines; in our trade and commerce; in our homes, our schools, our churches; and in our Christian civilization.

"But, in our rejoicings, let us not forget devoutly to offer our grateful acknowledgements to Almighty God for his past and present blessings so richly poured out upon us as a Nation and a people.

"And as we step from the First into the Second Century of our Nation's history and existence, let us not forget the obligations which rest upon us as individuals, to do each his part in the future, to secure the continued prosperity of our beloved country, the happiness of our fellow-citizens, and the perpetuation of the liberty and independence which was secured to us by the patriotic men and women of a hundred years ago, remembering now and at all times, that 'righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.'

"Allow me, my friends and fellow-citizens, to express, for the committee who have charge of the present arrangements, the gratification and pleasure it gives them to meet you here to-day; to bid you welcome to the festivities of the present occasion, and to express the wish that you may enjoy much on this Centennial Day, and that you may have long life, prosperity, and happiness."

From the historical sketch—"An Historical Sketch of Preston County and Its Towns"—read by the Hon. William G. Brown, we extract very largely, as follows:

"One of the objects which Congress had in view in passing the resolution, as well as the President in issuing the proclamation, just read, was to furnish and secure among the archives of every county, data to which the future historian might refer. Tradition is the most obscure and shortlived medium through which the history of a country or a people can be transmitted. This was soon discovered by men and they thought to give a more enduring form to the history of their times by the erection of towers, pyramids, and mounds. But even this mode failed of its purpose, The first great tower, that was designed to connect this earth with heaven and immortalize its builders, has not only disappeared, but has left no ruins or mark to tell who were its architects, or where it stood. The pyramids of later times, found in Egypt, through the agency of the hieroglyphics found on them, impart some dim light in relation to the object of their erection, as well as the persons whose memories they are designed to commemorate. While the simple mounds of America, by their deposits, only tell that they were the receptacle of human bodies—as to all else they are silent. After the introduction of letters and the facilities of the printing press among the more enlightened nations, the history of men and passing events became more accurate and minute; and it is hoped that the future historian of our times may find much to enrich his pages in the deposits made to-day among the records of the many thousands of counties and cities of our country. The glories of Greece and Rome, and the fame of their illustrious men, now familiar to the students of all our schools, would have been lost to the world but for the brilliant historians that gave them to their posterity.

"The character of a man, whose average life is less than fifty years, can be understood and held in remembrance by those around him, but the character and conduct of a nation that may last for thousands of years can only be known by faithfully written and faithfully preserved history. But for recorded facts, how little would be known of the thrilling incidents that occurred in what is called the border warfare? Many a son and grandson feels proud when he reads of his heroic mother, rifle in hand, helping to defend her cabin and children against the deadly attacks of the savage Indian. But for the history of the Revolution how little would be known of the high and glorious achievements of Washington and of the brave officers and men under his command in that long and bloody struggle that achieved our national independence.

"Where is the American citizen after reading that history, that does not feel his patriotism aroused and enlarged, or that is not proud of being called an American citizen? But for the aid of history how little would we know of our early statesmen, who were patriots, not millionaires. We read with interest every little incident in the lives of those great and good men.

* * *

"It is of the utmost importance to have a first-class historian to depict the thrilling incidents in the conduct of men or the wars of nations. If in giving the history of the late war between the United States and part of the people thereof, we had a Xenophon to describe and illustrate the battles of Bull Run, Seven Oaks, Wilderness, Lookout Mountain, Gettysburg, and the triumphant march of Sherman through the Southern States to the sea, Grecian heorism would dwarf before the bravery and daring of the warriors of our day and country. For it is as true now as ever, that "when Greek meets Greek, then comes the tug of war."

"Having made a few suggestions on the importance of preserving the history of our country, I now propose to say something in relation to our own county.

"The first Legislature of Virginia after the Declaration of

Independence, met in December, 1776, and formed two (Ohio and Monongalia) counties west of the Alleghany, out of what was then called "West Augusta." Ohio embraced what is called the "Panhandle," or the present counties of Ohio, Hancock, Brooke, Marshall, Wetzel and Tyler. Monongalia comprised the present counties of Monongalia, Marion, Taylor, Harrison, Wirt, Wood, Doddridge, Ritchie, Gilmer, Braxton, Upshur, Barbour, Randolph, Tucker and Preston.

"Prior to 1776 the beautiful bottoms of the Ohio and the fertile valley of the Monongalia had induced a few bold adventurers to settle at the mouth of Wheeling creek on the Ohio and at the mouth of Decker's creek on the Monongahela. But the territory composing the present county of Preston, a hundred years ago, did not contain a single resident white man.

"In 1818 when Preston was first formed, her population must have been about 3000, for in 1820, her first separate census, her population was only 3,422; and in 1870, being the last census, her population was 14,555. By this it will be seen that the per cent of increase of population of Preston from 1820 to 1870 is greater than that of the United States; for the census of the latter in 1820 was 9,638,131, and in 1870 only 38,558,983; and this notwithstanding that within the period aforesaid, Florida, Texas and California, with their populations, had been annexed, or added, to the United States.

"Preston, Wood, and Harrison are the only counties taken from the territory originally belonging to the old county, that out-number in population our good old mother-Monongalia.

"Just at the close of the war in 1781, many of the discharged soldiers of the Revolution had to find new homes and new employment. The hunting grounds of the valley of Cheat River invited them to settle in the territory now forming the county of Preston.

"The old Revolutionary rifle, with its flint-lock, and

muzzle that you could run your thumb into, in the hands of an old soldier, was a dangerous weapon not only to the wild game but also to the Indian that was then fighting for what he claimed as his own favorite hunting grounds.

"To give you an idea of the game and its abundance then found among our hills, old Mr. — Wiles, who settled in what is now called Union District, told me more than fifty years ago, that he, when he first settled there, killed as high as seven elk in one day, the least of which weighed over three hundred pounds net.

"The late Col. Ashby, who resided on Snowy Creek, near Portland, told me that he, when young, killed in a fall, as high as thirty deer and his father about as many, and, by way of variety, they would occasionally kill a bear or buffalo. And within my recollection, the late John Conley, who resided within less than a mile of Kingwood, went with his children to gather chestnuts, and soon came to a very inviting tree, the top of which was dark with opening burs, and at once concluded to fell it. But before the tree was half down, the children discovered a fine bear in the top of it. As a matter of course the programme was changed: the bear had to be killed and dressed.

"The waters of Cheat and Youghiogheny rivers were as famous for fish as their hills were for game. Was it surprising, then, that the Indians should fight to the last for a country like this?—a country which they and their fathers had owned and used for a summer retreat probably for thousands of years—where not only game and fish were found in great abundance, but where services, whortleberries, wild grapes and plums, hazle- and chestnuts, along with many other varieties of fruits and nuts, were found ripened to their hands by a kind Providence, without any toil on their parts. But they are conquered and gone, the country is ours.

"The last fight made in this country by the Indians to drive back the invading white man, was about the year 1788, when they murdered John Greene and part of his family and

carried the rest into captivity. This took place on the farm now owned by the heirs of the late Thomas Brown. The Indians fitted out their expedition on the Ohio river at or near the mouth of Fishing creek, now in Wetzel County. From thence they followed up Fishing creek to its head, crossed the dividing ridge to the head of Indian creek, which they followed down to its mouth, crossing the Monongahela river where Smithtown now stands, kept up the valley of White Day creek to its source, thence in an easterly direction with a view of falling on the head waters of Morgan's run, their object being to murder William Morgan, who had settled on the Dunkard bottom at the mouth of Morgan's run, where Mr. Morris now lives, and to burn his cabin. the fates had ordered otherwise. They mistook the creek, and followed down Greene's run, passing within a short distance from where Kingwood now stands, until they came in hearing of one Lewis, who was splitting rails for Greene. They shot Lewis and captured Greene's rifle which Lewis had with him, and hastened to Greene's house to commence the murderous fight. A little girl running from the house as the Indians came up, was fired upon and shot through the hand; she had presence of mind enough to fall and hold her bleeding hand on her face and head and lay there quietly until the Indians left. Greene was soon dispatched. The mother and two half grown daughters were taken prisoners. The house was fired and just before taking up their retreat one of the Indians stepped to the little girl, first shotand seeing the condition of her head, left her for dead. After the Indians had left, the little wounded girl made her way to Cheat river, opposite to the mouth of Roaring creek, where David Morgan now lives, but then the property of one Thomas Butler. The cries of the child were heard and she was taken across the river and cared for by Butler. When she grew up she married a man by the name of Friend, and her descendants live in or near the Sanging ground in the edge of Maryland. The Indians made good their retreat, and recrossed the Ohio river near where they

started. Mrs. Greene was exchanged, after a captivity of a year or more, and returned and married a man by the name of Moore by whom she had a son called Edmanson, and two daughters, Hannah and Cissia. Edmanson married, lived, and died in this county. The second wife of our worthy neighbor, Samuel Snider, was a daughter, and Col. Moore, living near Evansville, a son, of Edmanson. Cissia married a Trowbridge, and Hannah a Ruble; their descendents are living in Monongalia. Mrs. Greene, after the death of Moore, married a man by the name of Spurgen, by whom she had a daughter named Lydia, who also married a Ruble and moved to Monongalia. Mrs. Greene and her three husbands now sleep in the old graveyard near where Lewis was shot.

"After the defeat of the Indians by Gen. Wayne and the treaty of peace of 1795 was concluded where the city of Cincinnati now stands, the two daughters of Greene were found, one of the provisions of the treaty being that all the prisoners should be set at liberty. Sarah was the wife of a man by the name of Sourhaver, Elizabeth the wife of a man by the name of King, both French traders. The girls wanted to come home, and King not caring to leave his pursuits, sold his wife to a soldier by the name of Johnson, who took charge of her and her little son by the name John King. As the Indian marriages were not recognized as valid, Johnson married Mrs. King according to our laws and returned to this neighborhood, some seventy-six years ago.

"Sourhaver returned with his wife, remained at her mother's for a short time, sold out their interest in the Greene lands to my father, and returned to the Indians. Their descendants may be Indian chiefs, now bravely contending for the golden treasures of the Black Hills; at least, they chose their lots among the roving tribes of the "Great West." Johnson and his wife lived and died in this county, leaving beside John King, five children, Jesse, Isaac, Greene, Sarah and Rebecca. All the children of Elizabeth settled in this county. Jesse married a Miss Cromley, a cousin of the

late Wm. Royse, the former owner of this grove in which we are to-day assembled.

"I have been thus particular because of the large connection of the Greene family, and because the Greene murder does not appear, so far as I know, in any of the sketches of the border warfare with the Indians.

"About 60 years ago, I first visited an Indian mound standing on the ridge between Lick and Pringle's run, some five miles from this place, at the top of which stood a very large sugar tree with large roots running down the sides of the mound into the ground like braces, and around its base lay many human bones. The mound itself was silent, but the skeletons were all those of full grown men, indicating that the surrounding plain, at some remote period, had witnessed some exciting and deadly struggle. The principal rivers not only of the Virginias but of the United States, retain their Indians names. Not so with the principal river of our county. The early settlers and traders in crossing it, found it a deceptive stream, and called it Cheat, a name that it well deserves, as many an adventurer learned by sad experience.

"The towns and yillages of Preston generally took their names from their original proprietors.

"Brandonville took its name from Col. Brannon, a worthy gentleman, many of whose relatives reside in the county. The late Harrison Hagans and his two brothers, Elisha and Zer, began business there about 1820, as merchants. Bruceton was originally called Morton's Mills, but when it became a flourishing town it was named Bruceton by Mr. John H. Huffman in honor of his step-father, Col. Bruce.

"Cranesville was founded by the late John Crane, an active and well-doing citizen of his day. He left a large family, of which our generous friend Smith Crane, Esq., is one.

"Portland was originally called Cranberry Summit, from the abundant yield of cranberries found in the rich mash there before the construction of the B. & O. R. R., and because of the altitude of its site. The name of Portland was given to it by some Northern gentlemen, in consequence of the large amount of lumber being bought and sold there, and being otherwise a commercial center. I believe it was named in honor of its elder sister, Portland, of Maine.

"Albrightsville was named after David Albright, a wealthy citizen who lived and died near where the town stands.

"The town at the mouth of Daugherty's run is yet in its infacy, and I am not sure that it has yet been christened; but our enterprising fellow citizen, Joseph Gibson, is its founder, and it is proposed to call it St. Joe.

"West Union is an offshot of what was called Mount Carmel. In the construction of the Northwestern Turnpike, it missed Mt. Carmel a few hundred yards, and West Union was built on the road, and soon took the trade from the old town.

"Rowlesburg was named after Capt. Rowls, one of the leading engineers on the B. & O. R. R., during its construction.

"Tunnelton took its name from the Big Tunnel on the B. & O. R. R., near the eastern mouth of which it stands.

"Newburg, the largest town in the county, was built under the patronage of the B. & O. R. R. Company, designed for a first-class depot, and for the erection of machine shops for the use of the Railroad. The name of Newburg seemed to have been almost a necessity, as the list of names had been pretty much exhausted by her sister towns of the county before her day.

"Scotch Hill was built by Scotch miners, and they have done no discredit to their mother country or brethren across the Ocean. It has been one of the most moral and best governed villages in the county.

"Fellowsville was named for Joseph Fellows, a rich and distinguished citizen of New York, who held title to a large body of land including the site of the town. Mr. Fellows was a kinsman of our highly esteemed fellow-citizen, F. Heermans.

- "Independence was named in honor of the Fourth—Independence Day—by the late John Howard.
- "Evansville was named after the late Hugh Evans, Esq., who recently died at the age of one hundred years. Mr. Evans was once the Sheriff of the county, and long served as a member of the old County Court.
- "Franklin was principally built by the late enterprising George Hardman, for the accommodation of his hands at his iron works, known as the Franklin Furnace.
- "Gladesville was so named because of the beautiful glades near it.
- "Reedsville was named after James Reed, now living near the town; he was a large land-holder adjoining the village.
- "Masontown was named after William Mason, a merchant that first settled there. This place is surrounded with some of the best land in the county.
- "Kingwood is the oldest town in the county, and has been the seat of justice ever since the county was formed. The elevation on which it stands was covered with a beautiful forest of unusually tall trees—forest kings,—and from these it took its name. The grounds on which Kingwood now stands was used as a camping ground by the emigrants going West long before the town was built. Many of the earlier settlers of Kentucky passed this way from Winchester to the Ohio River opposite Marietta, at which point there was a fort, and from thence by flat boats to Covington, or other points, on the Kentucky shore, where forts were provided for their protection.
- "Conrod Sheets, Jacob Funk and a man by the name of Steel first built log houses and called the new town Kingwood, the name by which the camping ground had been known for years before.
- "This was about 1807. Funk's house stood across the street from where Mr. Elijah Shaffer now lives. Sheets's cabin stood where Hon, J. C. McGrew's fine residence stands.

The Steel house is still standing west of the residence of Mr. Gustavus Cresap."

About 5 o'clock on the evening of Monday, April 18, 1877, during a furious wind storm, the wooden bridge across Cheat River, at Albrightsville, was lifted from its abutments, thrown to the water below, up the stream, and demolished.

On the 30th of the following May, the county court appointed James C. McGrew, William H. King and John P. Jones commissioners to advertise for plans and receive proposals for rebuilding the superstructure; and they were also authorized to receive like proposals and plans of wooden and iron bridges, looking to the erection of a superstructure at or near the Fairfax Ford, making a survey of the river at that place. They were authorized to examine the road between the ford and Albrightsville, and report what amount, in their judgment, would be necessary to put the road in good repair. On the 3d of July the commissioners made their report, laying before the court various proposals and plans of bridges from different firms; whereupon, on motion of John S. Murdock, Esq., the court decided, a majority of the justices being present, to build one bridge across the river; and, on motion of Jehu Jenkins, Esq., the court decided to build the said bridge across the river on the old abutments at Albrightsville. Messrs. McGrew, King and Jones were retained as commissioners, or rather reappointed to select from the most suitable proposals received, and contract with parties, having reference in their selection and contract to the safety, durability and cheapness of the plan.

On the 7th day of July, the court ordered the clerk to prepare bonds of the denomination of one hundred dollars each, not exceeding eight thousand dollars, to raise funds to build the bridge, and bonds of the same denomination to the amount of three thousand dollars for the poor-house to be erected, in all not to exceed the aggregate of eleven thousand dollars.

The commissioners, some time about the middle of July,

entered into contract with the Wrought Iron Bridge Company, of Canton, Ohio, for the erection of a one-span wrought-iron truss bridge across Cheat, on the old abutments, at Albrightsville. The bridge was to be completed by the 1st of the following October.

Saturday, July 7, 1877, the court, a majority of the justices being in attendance, decided to build a house of general reception for the poor of the county on the present poor-farm, not to cost the county over three thousand dollars. The board of overseers of the county were authorized to prepare plans, and let the building of the poor-house to the lowest responsible bidder. McCafferty & Hughes were the contractors.

On the same day, the court, on motion of the Hon. Wm. G. Brown, Charles M. Bishop and Robert W. Monroe, ordered that the districts of the county and the councils of Kingwood, Newburg, Rowlesburg, Portland and Brandonville open polls on the ensuing 7th of August, for the purpose of taking the sense of the people upon the question of subscribing to the capital stock of a proposed narrow-gauge railway from Morgantown, past Kingwood, connecting with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad at some point in the county. The vote, however, was never taken. A few days after the order was made, the friends of the enterprise found that the date fixed would be too soon for an intelligent submission of the proposition, and by common consent no polls were opened.

On the 25th of August, the name of the Preston County Herald was changed to that of the West Virginia Argus.

The year 1877 closed with matters worse than when it opened. A bonded debt was again resting upon the county, and the hard times following the panic were getting no better. The succeeding year was no improvement; matters seemed to be getting worse and worse; public works had stopped, and there was no call for labor in any quarter.

In 1879, a most horrible murder was committed about three miles from Portland (Cranberry Summit), where a ped-

eller was killed, robbed, and his body thrown into a wood, where it was found on the 3d day of July. The particulars of this murder will be given in the history of Portland District.

In 1880, business seemed to brighten up, and the laboring classes found employment again at public works, though at lower rates of wages than before the panic. The presidential campaign of the year excited the usual interest among the people of the county.

The Broad-Ax was started at Fellowsville, on the 2d of July, by George Purcell and John N. Wolff. It was moved to Newburg soon after, and the name changed to The Newburg Enterprise. After running a short time, publication of the paper was stopped.

Soon after the removal of the *Broad Ax* to Newburg, another paper, called the *Newburg Herald*, was started at that place, by Charles H. McCafferty.

Early in 1881, a railway—the Morgantown & Iron Valley—was projected. It was to begin at the point on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad where the railway from the Irondale Furnace taps it, and, running up that road to the furnace, it was to extend through Valley District, down Decker's Creek, to Morgantown. At the school election on the third Tuesday in May, the districts of Valley and Lyon voted subscriptions to the road—the former \$11,000, and the latter \$20,000. The route was afterward surveyed and, perhaps, located; but the intentions of the company as to the future, have not been made known.

A voting place was established at Fearer's, in Grant District, this year.

The territory embraced within the boundaries of Preston County has had an interesting, and to some extent an eventful, history. On the west it was swept by the great Catawba War-Path; on the east passed Nemacolin Indian trail from the forks of the Ohio to the fountain-head of the Poto-

mac, and on its near north fell the line of Braddock's fateful march.

For two hundred and fifty years after Cabot planted the standard of Great Britain upon the dreary coast of Labrador, and beside it placed the banner of a free republic—his native city Venice,—the Indians remained undisputed masters of the soil of Preston County, while their brethren in the North, East and South were being dispossessed of their hunting grounds. In 1750, their rule was threatened, and the territory of Preston as a part of the Monougahela Valley, lay between the English possessions in the East and the French colonies in the West. In 1754, England and France engaged in a final contest for colonial supremacy in the New The Ohio Valley, including the Monongahela Valley, was the subject of dispute, each nation claiming it; and the frontiers-men of each striving for a foot-hold on its soil, precipitated the great contest then opening and to be known in history as the French and Indian War. France sought to occupy the Ohio Valley for the purpose of connecting her settlements on the St. Lawrence with those in the Mississippi Valley, and by a cordon of forts on their waters from the ocean to the gulf, divide the continent, hemming the English in east of the Alleghanies, and winning all the vast stretches of western territory for the mighty realm of New France.

France bent all her powerful energies to carry out this great design. England exerted all her mighty strength to prevent its successful accomplishment. England claimed from ocean to ocean, and American pioneers in her interests pierced the Ohio Valley by the way of Wills Creek (now Cumberland, Maryland), and built a stockade on the site of Pittsburg, which a French fleet captured, enlarged and named Fort Duquesne.

From Fort Duquesne, "the gateway of the West," the French came with waving banners and shining blades to hurl back the silken standards and gleaming steel of Great Britain. But a few miles northeast of the territory of Preston the two forces met, and Washington fired the first gun of

the contest. It was the death-knell of French rule in North America. The rustling flame of that volley opened a war in which New France was swept from the map of the New World, and the North American continent passed under the rule of the English-speaking race with its powerful language, laws and institutions.

Before the close of this war, the three Eckorlys attempted to settle on the soil of Preston, but two were killed, and the other one was compelled to leave. By 1765, the Indains had retreated from Preston, but came back for many years thereafter to murder the settlers and plunder their possessions.

The first permanent settlements were made on the present territory of Preston County, in the year 1769. The Indians had then left the county as residents, but war parties and marauders returned from beyond the Ohio until as late as 1789.

In 1734, the territory of Preston County was a wilderness, and was known as a part of Orange County; four years later it formed a part of Augusta, and thirty-eight years afterward was included as a part of that portion of the West Augusta District constituting Monongalia County, and so remained till 1818, when nearly all of its present territory was erected into a county by the time-honored name of Preston.

A century ago, far from the early centers of eastern civilization, within the sweep of the mountains so blue, lay the territory of Preston County, an almost unbroken wilderness with but here and there the solitary cabin of the white man. Preston County is to day favorably known for the wise economy and agricultural thrift of its inhabitants; but a hundred years ago, where now its green meadows and golden harvests lie warm in heavens bright sunshine, heavy forests existed whose depths were filled with wild beasts and inhabited by savage Indians.

Eighteen years passed away, and a great highway over the Alleghany Mountains—the Northwestern Turnpike—was carried through its territory; seventeen years more, and an iron

pathway for travel and commerce extended through the county. After the construction of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, eight short years went by, and then from the South Atlantic coast of the Republic rolled up the breaking thunders of the greatest civil war that ever occurred in the New World.

The storm of battle burst upon Virginia, and it was rent in twain. "The men from the sea-shore," from the south district, from "the beautiful and historic Valley," afterward "upon whose hoof-beaten bosom red battle so deeply stamped his foot and made it famous forever"—these all gathered beneath the Stars and Bars. But westward from the crest of the mountain, the sons of Virginia rallied under the Stars and Stripes. From the frowning mountains, to the bright waters of "the beautiful river," rang the war cry of the Union and passed the watch-word, A New State.

From the days of the Rebellion Preston County has rapidly increased in wealth and population, and at the present time needs only an active use of capital backed by energy, to develop her great mineral wealth, and place her as one of the foremost counties of the State, a position which she little lacks as it is, and to which she proudly aspires.

We close the chapter with the census returns of the county for the year 1880, as far and as full as they can be gotten at this writing.

The population of the several districts, according to the census of 1880, is as follows:

Kingwood Valley	2824 1507	Lyon Reno	3391 3229
Total west side	of Cheat		
GrantPleasant	$egin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Portland Union	
Total east side	of Cheat		8315

The population of the several more important towns and villages of the county, in 1880, was:

	Cranberry. 363 Independence 249 Brandonville 115
- Bruceton	

The population of Preston for the seven decades since its formation, is as follows:

1820	3422	185011,708
		1860
1840		187014,555
		18,966

The per centage of increase is shown by the following table:

From 1820	to	1830.	 	 	 		٠.			٠.	.50	per cen
From 1830												
From 1840	to	1850.	 		 	 					.70	44
From 1850	to	1860.	 	 	 						.13	66
From 1860	to	1870.	 		 						. 9	46
From 1870	to	1880.	 		 	 				٠.	.30	44

Preston, in 1880, was the banner county in the State as regards raising oats and buckwheat, having produced 197,-395 bushels of oats and 73,974 bushels of buckwheat.

The Assessors' books for 1880 show the number of acres assessed, including town lots covering 291 acres on the west side of Cheat, to be 390,027.

Valuation of Land	
•	
Total of Land and Buildings	. \$2,336,080

The tax for general State purposes was \$4274.35; for general school purposes, \$2339.44: total tax for general State and school purposes, \$6613.79. County levy was \$10,579.26; aggregate district Levies were—for Roads, \$2414.95; for Schools, \$4703.80; for Buildings, 2070.13: total sum of district levies, \$9188.88: total assessment of taxes for 1880, \$26,381.93.

CHAPTER X.

BIOGRAPHICAL.—CONGRESSMEN AND STATE SENATORS.

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM G. BROWN.

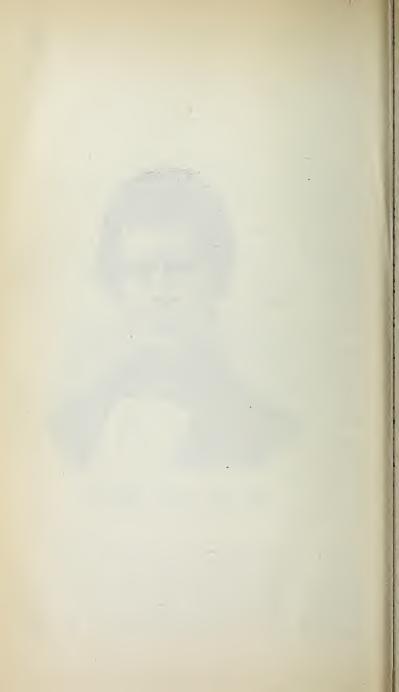
John Brown, grandfather of the Honorable William G. Brown, was born and educated hard by the City of Edinburgh, in Scotland, the home of the Brown family, from which many of them have emigrated to England and Ireland and across the Atlantic to the United States.

When John Brown was twenty-one years of age he went to England, but not meeting with the expected degree of success in his business, he determined to emigrate to Ireland, whither a branch of his family had gone some years before. Going back to Scotland, he married a young lady by the name of Ann Morrow, and sailed to Londonderry, near which he settled and managed a large estate belonging to the father of General Montgomery who fell at Quebec, and subsequently to Lord Beresford, where he died at an advanced age, leaving six children to venerate his memory, namely, John, James, George, Peter, Thomas, and Ann who was married to a gentleman by the name of Ross. John held an office in the English navy, and went down in the ill-starred Royal George.

During the American Revolution, James Brown, the father of the subject of this sketch, sympathized with the colonies struggling for liberty, and spoke of the Crown and ministry of Great Britain in language that greatly irritated the loyal party. After the American Revolution crowned the new world with the laurels of liberty and independence, James



Hon. WILLIAM G. BROWN.



Brown associated with those who aspired to compass the freedom of Ireland; but the Protestant population were divided on the subject, and becoming discouraged, he concluded to emigrate to America. But before leaving Ireland he wedded a young lady by the name of Rachel Hawthorn, and in the fall of 1789 he and his wife's family sailed from Londonderry for Philadelphia, where they safely landed, and in the following spring removed to Northwestern Virginia, and settled in that part of Monongalia County which now constitutes Preston County. James Brown purchased lands in the settlement called the "Dunkard Bottom," where he lived till 1838, dying at the age of seventy-seven years. His family consisted of five sons and three daughters—John C., who died on the old homestead in April, 1852; Robert, Joseph, William G., Thomas, Jane, and Anne M., the wife of Elisha M. Jane married a man named Bowen who set-Hagans, Esq. tled in Wisconsin.

William Guy Brown, the fourth son, the subject of this sketch, was born September 25th, 1800. He profited by such schools and schooling as the country then afforded, the learning of the times being nothing more than the rudiments of a good English education. He was noted for his fondness for reading and a desire to acquire knowledge.

Having been informed that his father was related to Robert Burns's mother, he felt inclined to court the muses; but the muses were not propitious, and, like Blackstone, he turned his attention to the law.

He went to Parkersburg in the summer of 1852, and studied with Oliver Phelps and Joseph H. Samuels, Esq.

Mr. Brown came to the bar of his native county in the spring of 1823, and served as prosecuting attorney from that year till 1832. He evidenced a high order of intellect, and soon won the reputation of being a profound lawyer and a successful advocate.

He supported Andrew Jackson in his three candidacies for the Presidency, contributing largely to the old hero's popularity in Preston and Monongalia counties, which were then his field of practice.

He was elected to the General Assembly of Virginia in 1832, and in the exciting session of that year, he took sides with those who condemned the course of South Carolina in the ordinance of nullification.

In 1840, Mr. Brown was elected by the Democratic party to the legislature of Virginia and returned in 1841, 1842, 1843; and, as an evidence of his popularity, he was elected in 1843 without opposition. In the presidential campaign of 1844, Mr. Brown was appointed assistant elector for the Seventeenth Electoral District, and spoke through northwestern Virginia and southwestern Pennsylvania.

He received the nomination for Congress in 1845, and was elected by a large majority. In the adjustment of the controverted Oregon Boundary, Mr. Brown voted against the resolution to compromise on the parallel of 49 degrees, and claimed for the United States the parallel of 54 degrees 40 minutes as her northern boundary. He considered the compromise an imprudent "backing out" of the administation and its supporters. He also stoutly advocated the war with Mexico.

He was again returned to Congress without organized opposition in the spring of 1847; and in the fall of 1850, was returned as a delegate to the Virginia convention, in which he sustained his reputation for tact and ability.

From 1851 to 1855, he served as a visitor to the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb at Staunton, Virginia.

In 1860 he attended both National Democratic conventions at Charleston and Baltimore, and was a Douglass elector. He was also a delegate to the Virginia Convention of 1861, and opposed the secession of the State. Returning home, he was elected a Representative to the XXXVIIth Congress, and served on the Committee of Manufactures, and the Militia.

In 1863, he was re-elected to the XXXVIIIth Congress, representing the new State of West Virginia, and serving on

the Committee of Claims. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention which held its sessions in Charleston in 1871–2. He was elected to the legislature of West Virginia in August 1872, and served two years.

Mr. Brown has been President of the National Bank of Kingwood since the time of its organization to the present time.

In 1868 and 1869, he was assistant prosecuting attorney; and, in the illness of the prosecuting attorney, Col. Charles Hooton, Mr. Brown was the leading prosecutor in the famous Elihu Gregg case.

It was in the adroit defense of persons tried for high crimes and grave offenses that he has gained the greatest distinction. "Many instances could be given where he cleared his client to the utter astonishment of all, save those who heard the defense."

Mr. Brown has enjoyed good practice in his profession, covering a period of nearly fifty years, and is still at the bar. He has dealt extensively in real estate, and is one of the largest land owers in his section of the State. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Kingwood.

Mr. Brown has been twice very happily married. On the third of July 1828, he married Juliet A. R. Byrne, who died in 1851. And on the fifth of June, 1855, he married Margaret P. Gay, daughter of Matthew Gay, Esq., of Morgantown.

Mr. Brown has only one representative of his name, a son, William G. Brown, Jr., who was born April 27, 1856, and who is a graduate of the West Virginia University, and now his father's law partner.

THE HONORABLE JAMES C. M'GREW.

James Clark McGrew, son of Colonel James and Isabella McGrew, was born near the village of Brandonville in what is now Grant District, Preston County, West Virginia—then Monongalia County, Virginia,—on September 14th, 1813. His grandfather was Patrick McGrew, who was born and raised in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, from which county he removed to Virginia, and settled near Brandonville in the year 1786.

The great-grandfather of James C. was a Highland Scotchman, who came to America before the Revolutionary war, and first settled in the Valley of Virginia, but subsequently removed to Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, where he died.

The mother of the subject of this sketch was a daughter of James Clark, who came in 1762 from the north of Ireland to America, and settled on the waters of Big Sandy, four miles north of Brandonville.

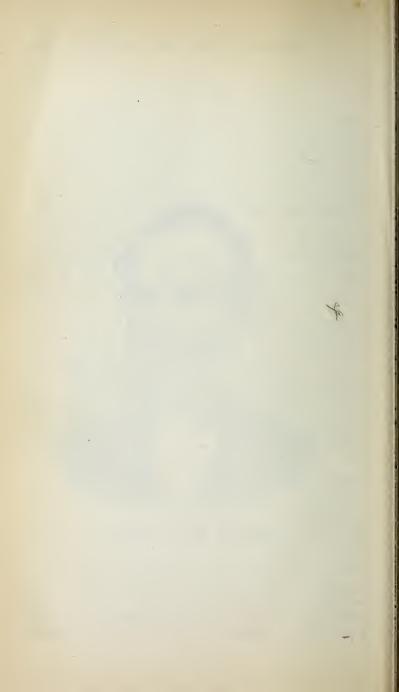
He received a good practical English education, and in 1833 engaged in mercantile pursuits in Kingwood, which he followed with fair success for nearly thirty years.

He married, in 1841, Persis Hagans, eldest daughter of the Honorable Harrison Hagans, of Brandonville, and sister of the Honorable J. Marshall Hagans, of Morgantown.

In 1861, he was elected a delegate to the Virginia Convention which met in Richmond on the 13th of February of that year, and which passed an ordinance of secession, against which he voted, being a decided Unionist. Previous to the passage of the ordinance, and to aid in forcing such a result, a large number of daring and dangerous men had been collected at Richmond from the southern States by means of a secret circular sent out by some ultra-secession members of the Convention. The turbulent and dangerous element throughout the city was intense. One night shortly before



Hon. JAMES C. McGREW.



the passage of the ordinance, hundreds of this excited mob, with torches, drums and fifes and secession flags, hooting and yelling, gathered in front of Mrs. Thornton's house where McGrew and his colleagues, the Honorable William G. Brown, and John S. Carlisle, a delegate from Harrison County, were boarding, and tying up ropes to the branches of the trees in front of the house, they called for Carlisle by name, and in no very polite or re-assuring language declared they had ropes ready for him and all like him.

As the rabble approached, McGrew being curious to ascertain what the uproar meant, opened the window of his bed-room and, looking out, was brought face to face with the surging crowd. Not liking to "show the white feather" under the circumstances, he maintained his position at the window, looking down upon the ugly scene in the street until the mob, without attempting to enter the house, and having apparently exhausted their vocabulary of vile epithets, took down the ropes from the trees, and marched away to the tune of "Dixie."

He was one of the eighteen or twenty members of the convention who held a secret meeting on the afternoon of Saturday, April 20th, 1861, in a bed-room of the Powhatan Hotel in the City of Richmond, which was the germ idea that developed into the reorganization of the State government of Virginia, and ultimately into the division of the State and the formation of West Virginia, full particulars of which will be found in chapter IX.

He was one of the members from northwestern Virginia who resolved to quietly withdraw from the Convention, return to their constituents, and appeal to the masses of the people against the ordinance of secession, and, if possible, retain Virginia in the Union.

His return home by a circuitous route to avoid forcible detention was fraught with dangers to himself in common with his colleagues, as detailed more at length in chapter IX.

On the 29th of June, he, with eleven others, was expelled from the convention for being absent and engaged in what

the convention called a "conspiracy against the State." He was elected to the legislature of West Virginia in 1863—4—5, and assisted in organizing the State his efforts had aided to create. In 1866, he withdrew from public affairs, and engaged in the banking business as cashier of the National Bank of Kingwood, which started with, and still retains, an excellent reputation.

In 1863, he was appointed by Governor Boreman one of the managing directors of the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane, and served as such until 1871.

In 1868, he was elected to the XLIst Congress from the Second District of West Virginia, and re-elected in 1870, aiding while a member in the financial legislation of President Grant's first term.

At the close of his second term he retired from public life, against the solicitations of many of his constituents; and has since been living a quiet, retired life, giving attention to his private affairs.

In January, 1881, he was appointed a delegate to the Methodist Ecumenical Conference which met in London, England, September 7, 1881, and on August 6th sailed from New York for Europe, intending to be present at the conference, and to make a tour through Great Britain, the continent of Europe, and possibly Palestine, Egypt and India.

THE HONORABLE JONATHAN HUDDLESON.

There lives in Valley District, two and a half miles northeast of Gladesville, an old gentleman once known to every voter in Preston, Taylor and Monongalia counties, because he represented these counties in the Senate of Virginia; but to day in his own senatorial district the younger generation scarcely know his name.

Born in Fairfax County, Virginia, in 1798, November 22d, he comes down from the Eighteenth Century, and has entered the last score of years amid the stirring scenes of the peerless Nineteenth Century.

As the oldest public man in the county, we sketch his own account of his life and public services.

He wedded Sarah Paxton Conn, November 28th, 1822, and kept boarding-house in Washington City, D. C., from 1822 till 1824. Next he lived in Alleghany County, Maryland, and was superintendent on the National Road. He came to Preston County in 1847, and represented it, Taylor and Monongalia counties in the State Senate from 1855 till 1859.

He introduced the bill establishing the asylum for the insane, located at Weston.

He originated a bill to settle the controverted line between Virginia and Maryland, a task for which he was well qualified, having resided in both States for a time.

He also had passed a bill establishing a line of ocean steamers, but the project was lost on the boisterous waves of civil war.

He was an admirer of Andrew Jackson, and visited the Hermitage as a member of a committee to confer with the old hero on the delicate question of the selection of a presidential candidate. Van Buren was objectionable to the Democracy of the South. Jackson was asked if he could not

give up Van Buren. He replied, "I can give up any manfor the cause."

He first proposed to his fellow committee-men the name of James K. Polk, of Tennessee, as a man who would unite all sections and bury all petty party jealousies.

He voted for the ordinance of secession, was confined two years at Wheeling and Camp Chase during the war, was imprisoned on the testimony of a young man dressed in gray uniform who visited him one night, and next day sent on the provost marshal for his arrest.

In 1867, he went to Shenandoah Valley, bought property and remained till 1875, when he returned to his lands in Preston County, where his sons Henry W. and Thomas H. are engaged in farming.

THE HONORABLE JOHN J. BROWN.

The Honorable John J. Brown was born in Kingwood in 1825, and residing in and near the town until 1864, was identified with Preston County as one of her useful citizens worthy of grateful recollection.

He received his education at Monongalia Academy, and Washington College, Pennsylvania.

He studied law with his uncle, the Honorable William G. Brown, at Kingwood, and was his law partner from 1849 till 1861, when Mr. Wm. G. Brown was elected to represent the West Virginia (Wheeling) District in the Congress of the United States.

Mr. Brown was in Preston County in the exciting days of the secession movement and advocated the Union cause.

At the Union pole-raising, on Friday, the 25th of January, 1861, he made an eloquent appeal to the citizens of Preston, when presenting on behalf of the ladies of Kingwood, the flag of the United States to be unfurled to the mountain breeze on a pole one hundred and five feet high. The speech will be found on pages 126 and 127.

He was one of the delegates of Preston County to the convention of 1861, to restore the government of Virginia; and, also a delegate to the convention which framed the first constitution of West Virginia.

In 1863, under that constitution, he was elected to represent the district composed of the counties of Preston, Monogalia and Taylor, in the senate of West Virginia, and at the expiration of his term was re-elected, serving two terms in the senate.

In 1864, he removed to Morgantown, Monongalia County, where he still resides. He is now president of the Merchants' National Bank of West Virginia, at that place.

Living for nearly forty years in Preston County, and identified with it as a useful servant, he is still kindly remembered by our people.

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM B. CRANE.

William Bonnell Crane, son of Jacob Crane, was born on the old "Crane Farm," near Muddy Creek, in this county, on the fifth of May, 1824.

He attended the schools of his neighborhood, and, although his advantages were none of the best, he acquired an education that enabled him to make himself a useful and influential man.

Growing up on the farm at home, hard work and out-door exercise developed his large frame, and his robust, portly form and manly bearing are still well remembered by the people of his acquaintance, as well as his wonderful feats of strength. Though remarkably large physically, he was quick of motion, and a swift runner.

He held a Colonel's commission in the militia, and was known best by the people as "Colonel Crane." He owned a number of farms in Portland District, dealt largely in live stock, and was engaged almost uninterruptedly in the mercantile business at Cranberry Summit during the last twenty years of his life.

He served in the legislatures of 1868 and '69 as a delegate from Preston, and in the State Senate from 1870 to 1872. (Under the Constitution of 1863, delegates were elected yearly, and senators biennially.)

When about thirty years of age he married Miss Rachel Elliott, and they lived happily together until the dread messenger of death called him away.

He was a regular attendant upon the services of the Baptist Church, of which his wife was a devoted member, and in March, 1871, he made a profession of religion and was baptized in Snowy Creek by the Rev. D. W. Rogers.

His home was made happier by five children—S. Fuller, now mail agent on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad from Parkersburg to Grafton; Marshall W., Eudora C., Jennie C. and Chester C.

In January, 1873, he was afflicted with a carbuncle on his neck, which, assuming a virulent type, proved fatal, and he died in peace March 14, 1873.

Colonel Crane was an honest, sympathetic, and generous His liberality was remarkable; and it was largely his his efforts and means that erected the large Baptist Church building at Cranberry. Though devoted to his own church, he was too large in view and liberal in mind to be a bitter sectarian. He was a strong Unionist in the stirring times of '60 and '61, and a staunch supporter of that cause throughout the Rebellion. He was a modest, unassuming man, though one of great influence among his neighbors. The political honors conferred up on him came to him unsought. He was elected to the Legislature as a Republican, and served his people well and faithfully. Well remembered is the day of his funeral in March, 1873, by the many who attended. It was one of the largest ever known in the county, and the services, which were conducted by his friend and pastor, the Rev. D. W. Rogers, were very solemn. Col. Crane lived beloved and esteemed by every one who knew him, and was greatly lamented in his death. His remains lie sleeping in the cemetery at Cranberry.

THE HONORABLE CHARLES M. BISHOP.

The Honorable Charles Mortimer Bishop was born at Moorefield, Hardy County, Virginia, January 4th, 1827. His father's name was Adam, and his mother's maiden name was Rebecca C. Riley.

At the age of 7 years he began to attend school in his native town. The school was taught by a man named Peck, and he attended it three years and a half. He also went to schools taught by two masters named Pugh and Scott, and subsequently attended a year at Charlestown, Jefferson County, after which he clerked six months for S. D. Brady, Esq., at Romney, Hampshire County.

In 1843, he came with his father to Kingwood, and attended school short time under the tuition of Nicholas Howell. Here he learned his father's trade, saddlery, and worked early and late, sometimes as high as sixteen hours a day.

On the 16th of July, 1851, he married Margaret E. Morris, sister to Mrs. Smith Crane and daughter of Reuben Morris, Esq.

In the following December, he engaged in merchandizing at Rowlesburg, and remained there till August 16th, 1872, when he returned with his family to Kingwood.

While merchandizing at Röwlesburg he was also in partnership with Mr. D. Ridenour at West Union (now Aurora), and with Mr. F. M. Huffman at Fellowsville.

In 1870, receiving the Republican nomination, he was elected to the House of Delegates. And, in 1872, being the Republican nominee from the district composed of the counties of Preston and Monongalia, he was elected to the State Senate, by a large popular majority—the highest compliments of a free people. In all, Mr. Bishop served six years in the legislature.

He was a member of the committee on finance, when in the House, and also during his 4 years in the Senate. He



Hon. CHARLES M. BISHOP.



was a member of the Senate Committees on Education, and Humane Institutions; also on a special committee to reduce the taxes in the city of Charleston. He favored the claims of Wheeling as the Capital city, and bravely helped to fight the question through when the man who stood up for Wheeling was denied the courtesy of social recognition even on the streets of Charleston.

In 1875, he began merchandizing in Kingwood with Captain Joseph M. Godwin, and the partnership lasted two years and a half. He then had erected a two-story frame store-building, in 1877, on Price Street, opposite the post-office, and still carries on business in the line of general merchandizing.

In the meantime he served as one of the managing directors of the State asylum for the Insane, under appointment of Governor Mathews.

Mr. Bishop is one of the directors of the National Bank of Kingwood, operates several farms, and is greatly interested in the improvement of our live stock. He was converted in the winter of 1845, and has ever since been an active, zealous member of his church, the Methodist Episcopal.

He has three children living, M. Eugenia, who graduated at the Wheeling Female College in 1878; Lulu E., who is now a student of the same institution of learning; and master Charles Y., a school boy at the home school in Kingwood.

Mr. Bishop is now in the prime of life and in the meridian of usefulness. Devoting his energies to his private affairs, he still takes a deep interest in the welfare of his fellow-men, in the material progress of the country, and in the mental, moral and religious advangement of the age.

THE HONORABLE JOHN P. JONES.

The Honorable John P. Jones was born in Wales, on the 21st day of June, 1832. His father, Daniel J. Jones, came with his family to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1839. His mother's name was Mary Davis, of Wales, who died in 1875. having passed her three score and ten by five years. His father is still living at Ebensburg, Cambria County, Pennsylvania.

Although but a child then, he well remembers the imposing ceremonies at the coronation of Victoria, Queen of England, and very clearly recollects when a mere lad in Pittsburgh, the hard-cider and log cabin campaign of 1840.

In 1840, his father removed to Ebensburg, and he attended the common school till fourteen years of age, receiving a good practical education.

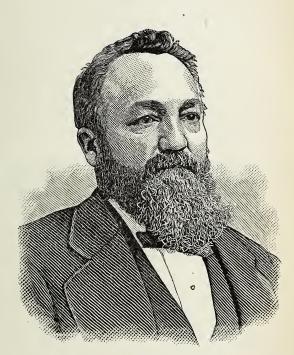
In 1850, he entered the mercantile business in the employ of Ezekiel Hughes, and remained with him till 1858.

On the 17th of April, 1855, he married Hannah E., daughter of George Rogers, of Ohio. He then, with Robert Davis as partner, successfully engaged in the mercantile business until shortly after the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion, when he located in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the lumber business.

In April, 1863, he came to Cranberry Summit, Preston County, West Virginia, and, with E. T. Nutter and Freeman Evans, engaged in general merchandizing and the manufacture of shook. In 1870, he bought out his partners, and since that time has continued these lines of business.

He was elected a member of the board of county supervisors in 1868.

1870, he was elected to represent Preston County in the House of Delegates, and was re-elected in 1872. Amply endowed with energy and perseverance, and possessed of fine business qualifications, he is but naturally one of the leading



Hon. JOHN P. JONES.



business men in this part of our young and rising State, as he has been one of the most successful.

In 1876, he was elected as a Republican to the State Senate, to represent the tenth senatorial district, composed of Preston and Monongalia counties, and was conspicuous in the senate in his efforts to advance the material interests of Preston County in particular, and of the State in general.

He is an elder in the Presbyterian Church, and has always manifested great interest in the Sunday-school, being an energetic and untiring worker, and has served most acceptably as Superintendent for over twenty years.

He has always taken deep interest in the education of the youth of our land, mentally as well as morally, serving for more than ten years as president of the board of education of Portland District, and being instrumental in securing Cranberry her present beautiful and commodious school edifice.

In May, 1869, he was a delegate from the West Virginia Presbytery to the Presbyterian General Assembly in New York, and took part in its sessions held in that city.

In November following, he attended the sessions of the General Assembly held at Pittsburgh, when the Old School and the New School Presbyterian churches united as one body—the consummation of which Mr. Jones was an ardent advocate.

In 1880, he was elected a member of the board of commissioners or county court, the body being composed of Messrs. Jones, H. C. Hagans and James Allender.

In 1880, Mr. and Mrs. Jones celebrated their silver wedding with appropriate ceremonies, surrounded by a large circle of friends gathered together upon that occasion. They have been blessed with five children—Hattie B., Scott T., Adaline, Evaline M., and Cora C. Miss Hattie is a graduate of the Wheeling Female College, and has commenced the study of medicine with a view of entering the medical profession. Scott T. is associated with his father in the mercantile business.

In 1880, the Republican State convention, in appreciation of his past services, and in recognition of his business qualifications, offered to confer upon him the nomination for State Treasurer, which honor he peremptorily declined.

Since that time he has been busily engaged in conducting his business affairs, with an eye ever to the material advancement of his county and State; through his efforts there has been built at Cranberry a large steam flouring mill, costing nearly \$10,000. He is the principal member of the firm that owns and operates this mill.

THE HONORABLE WILLIAM M. O. DAWSON.

William Mercer Owens Dawson was born May 21, 1853, at Bloomington, Alleghany (now Garrett) County, Maryland. His father, Francis Ravenscraft Dawson, died in Kingwood, July 12, 1881, at the residence of his son, the subject of this sketch. His mother, Leah Kight, died at Bloomington in 1857.

At the time of the birth of the subject of this sketch, his father was engaged in the mercantile business at Bloomington. In 1858, he moved to Cranberry, this county; and soon afterwards to Bruceton Mills, where he remained till the breaking out of the Rebellion, when he removed to Ice's Ferry, in Monongalia County. Mr. Dawson had lived with his father up to that time; but then went to Cranberry and made his home with his brothers and sisters, who kept tavern there. The war having come on, Mr. Dawson's stay in Cranberry was of short duration; and his father took him to Ice's Ferry, where he remained till the autumn of 1863. when he returned to Cranberry to live with his sisters.

Though then past his tenth birthday, he could not yet read, but entering school that same fall, he redeemed his time and made rapid progress in his studies. All the schooling he received, was in the free school at Cranberry, except two terms of select school that he attended there.

From 1863 till 1868 he worked with his brother-in-law in the cooper-shop during the summers and attended school in winters. And while going to school, he worked mornings and evenings in the shop, usually until 9 o'clock at night.

In the summer of 1867, he was given a clerkship in the store of the Honorable John P. Jones at Cranberry, in whose employ he remained for a considerable time, broken by intervals in which he taught and attended school. He also clerked for other firms; taught his first school near Thomas Beatty's in Union District, in the winter of '69–'70; '70–'71, he taught the school near William Dodge's in Portland Dis-

trict; and in '71-'2, the Freeland school, two miles from Cranberry, in the same district.

Mr. Dawson came to Kingwood in the month of September, 1873, at the solicitation of James B. Chaffin, and entered into partnership with him in the publication of *The Preston County Journal*, of which he had been a regular correspondent. He had also been an occasional contributor to the columns of the *Wheeling Intelligencer*.

Mr. Dawson took entire charge of the *Journal* editorially, revised its subscription list, and reduced the price of the paper. Mr. Chaffin soon left the county, and Mr. Dawson became sole publisher of the paper, and within the next two years bought it from the Hon. James C. McGrew. Notwith standing the hard times following the financial depression of 1873, the patronage of the paper steadily increased.

Mr. Dawson not only intends that the *Journal* shall be a live paper, but also intends that it shall live and have room to expand; accordingly, in 1880, he erected the "Journal Building" on Main Street, and now Kingwood has a first-class printing house, inferior to none in the State, outside the city of Wheeling, a picture of which appears between these covers.

Mr. Dawson early took an eager interest in political affairs, and when only 7 years of age in 1860, he used to make boyish political speeches, being at that time an ardent "Douglass man." In 1874, he was elected chairman of the Republican executive committee of Preston County; has been twice unanimously re-elected, and still fills that position.

At the Cranberry convention in 1880—the largest convention ever held in the county—he received the Republican nomination for the State Senate from the Tenth District (Preston and Monongalia counties), and was elected at the ensuing October election. He entered the Senate January 12, 1881, the youngest member of that body, and perhaps the youngest senator in the history of the State.

He was appointed a member of the committees on banks and corporations, counties and municipal corporations, on

the penitentiary, on mines and mining, on public printing, on enrolled bills, and also a member of the select committee to investigate the public printing. Mr. Dawson served on the part of the Senate as chairman of the committee on enrolled bills—a responsible and very laborious position. During the session he showed himself a zealous friend of free schools, and spoke squarely in favor of submitting to the people the proposed amendment to the constitution prohibiting the manufacture and sale of ardent spirits. He offered resolutions providing for the distribution of the acts of the legislature as fast as signed and printed, and declaring the right of the State to regulate the freight and passenger charges of the railways in the State, both of which were adopted.

He also introduced Senate bill No. 117, "A bill"—as set forth in its title—"to provide for the regulation of railroad freight and passenger tariff in this State; to prevent unjust discrimination and extortion in the rates charged for transportation of passengers and freights, and to prohibit railroad companies, corporations, and lessees in this State from charging other than just and reasonable rates, and to punish the same, and to prescribe a mode of procedure and rules of evidence in relation thereto; and to appoint commissioners and to prescribe their powers and duties in relation to the same." The usual reference of the bill to committee was dispensed with and it was ordered to its second reading, by unanimous consent. Being introduced late in the session, and after it had been determined to hold an extra session the following winter, Mr. Dawson, after the bill was printed, appreciating its sweeping provisions and the importance of the subject, on his own motion had it laid on the table.

He also wrote a bill, which passed the senate, providing for the permanent marking of street lines in towns; and was instrumental in securing a number of amendments to the "alternate road law."

On the 23d of October, 1879, Mr. Dawson married Miss Luda Neff, daughter of John T. Neff, Esq., of Kingwood.

He is a member of the Kingwood Presbyterian Church,

and a regular attendant upon its services. He is an interested worker in the Sunday-school cause, having been superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal school while at Cranberry, and afterwards for a time superintendent of the Presbyterian school in Kingwood.

Mr. Dawson is a self-made man, ambitious, pushing, and energetic; a man of good business qualifications, ever ready for hard work, and alive to all questions of public interest and social improvement that agitate the minds of the people.

CHAPTER XI.

PHYSICAL HISTORY.

GEOGRAPHY: THE MASON AND DIXON LINE, MD. AND W. VA. BOUNDARY.
——GEOLOGY—BOTANY—ZOOLOGY.

Preston County is bounded on the north by the State of Pennsylvania, from which it is separated by the celebrated Mason and Dixon Line of National reputation; on the east by the State of Maryland, from which it is separated by the much disputed boundary line between West Virginia and Maryland, on the south by Tucker and Barbour counties, and on the west by Taylor, Marion and Monongalia counties.

It has long been the commonly received opinion that Preston County contained about 800 square miles. Various standard authorities have thus stated its area. The writer has long considered this given area as too large, and here submits the careful calculation of its area made by Joseph H. Hawthorne, Esq.:

"Touching the matter of boundary lines and the amount of territory included by them, the most trustworthy data to be had among the records of the county are much short of mathematical accuracy, and are but a practical approximation of the exactness desirable in this matter.

"The mountainous character of the country through which these lines pass, the long disputed division line between Maryland and West Virginia, and the general apathy in the past as to a careful survey of the county, have each done much to delay definite information as to limits and extent of the county.

"The best data in the matter we have, are from the surveys of General Buckner Fairfax, George M. Michaels and others

made at different times, and including different portions of these lines, which of course result in discrepancies when taken together. From an examination of these surveys, we have the following boundary for the county:

"Beginning at the northwest corner at a stone marked M. & P. on the Mason and Dixon's line, and running thence with this line due east 4940 poles to a stone corner where Maryland and West Virginia corner; thence in a due south course along the division line with Maryland 11604 poles to stone marked F. X., and which is usually called the Lord Fairfax Stone; thence n. 36 degrees w. 580 poles to a sugar and pine on the top of Allegheny Mountains; thence n. 684 degrees w. 3280 poles to the mouth of Muddy Run at Cheat River; thence s. 66½ degrees w. 2580 poles to Rock Spring; thence down Buffalo Fork of Big Creek to the mouth of Little Sandy; thence due north 2965 poles to chestnut; thence n. 6 degrees w. 980 poles to a white oak; thence n. 36 degrees e. 3600 poles to double chestnut at Cheat River; thence n. 5½ degrees e. 870 poles to a stone marked M. & P. 1841; thence n. 22 degrees e. 1020 poles to a stone marked M. & P.; thence due north 500 poles to the beginning in Mason and Dixon's line.

"A calculation made from these data with corrections deemed applicable for the purpose of calculation, makes the area of the county about 678 square miles.

"The land books of the county report the area of the farms of the county as follows, not including the town lots, which would aggregate but a small amount:

Portland District	.65,454	acres
Reno District	61,279	66
Union District,	59,140	66
Grant District		66
Pleasant District	52,613	44
Kingwood District		66
Valley District		44
Lyon District		
	,	

Aggregating......389,735 acres,

which when reduced, is nearly 609 square miles. This does not include much of the wild land, much unimproved land on the land books of other counties, especially Monongalia, the mother-county of Preston, and miscellaneous portions not taxed.

"The greatest length of the county is the eastern boundary along Maryland, which is 36 miles and 84 poles, and the greatest width is from the mouth of little Sandy on the west across due east to the Maryland line, which it about 20 miles."

Few counties in the United States have been as fortunate as Preston in having for its northern boundary a line of National repute, and its territory on the east forming the whole western boundary of an entire State.

Assuming that the interest of the subject will warrant a digression from the exact order of arrangement, we shall notice briefly the much-talked about and but little understood Mason and Dixon Line, that has played such an important part in the past political history of the American Nation.

In 1609, King James I. of England by right of discovery granted to a company in London, known as the Virginia Company, 400 miles of coast line reaching "West and Northwest" from sea to sea. Old Point Comfort, the north cape of James River on the Chesapeake Bay (a little south of north latitude 37 degrees) was the central point of this grant. At 69½ miles to the degree, this carried the grant by the coast line northward to about north latitude 40 degrees. In 1624, the charter of the Virginia Company was revoked, and never was restored.

On June 20, 1632, King Charles I, granted to Cecilius Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore, all the territory from north latitude 40 degrees, where New England terminates, south to the mouth of the Potomac, and bounded by the Potomac westward. This scope of territory included the present States of Delaware and Maryland. George Calvert had applied for the patent for this grant, but died before receiving it, and it was made out to his son Cecilius, commonly called Cecil in history.

In 1681, King Charles II. granted a charter to William Penn for Pennsylvania, and laid down its boundary lines as follows: From north latitude 40 degrees by the Delaware River south, and by a circular line 12 miles in its central point above the town of New Castle unto the beginning of the 40th degree of north latitude, and thence by a due line west to the extent of 5 degrees of longitude from the river Delaware.

In the imperfect maps of these days, the northern line of the 40th degree of latitude was put just north of Philadelphia. Baltimore claimed this line; Penn resisted. Penn, to get an ocean outlet (which carried the war into his enemy's camp), in 1682, bought Delaware from the Duke of York (afterwards James II.).

In 1637, some Swedes and Finns settled in Delaware on a temporary settlement made by some Hollanders in 1631. The Duke of York conquered these Swedes and Finns as being on lands belonging to the New Nerthlands. Penn now occupying Delaware claimed that Baltimore's grant was of terra inculta, or unsettled territory, and hence Delaware being settled, was an exception. The subject of ownership was carried to England, but Penn having friends at court easily obtained decisions in his favor, and held Delaware by the name of the "three lower counties." Years of contention and some bloodshed followed. The proprietors of Pennsylvania and Maryland, in 1732, entered into a compromise, by which 15 miles south of the south line of Philadelphia, at a point near the circular line in a parallel of latitude, the line between them was to be run due west.

This compromise was afterward disregarded by Baltimore, and was enforced by a decree in chancery in England. Contention, however, still continued, and eventually, in 1760, the parties litigant agreed upon the line of 1732 to be run out.

Surveyors were chosen by the parties to perform this work. John Lukens and Archibald M'Clean were selected to fix the boundary lines of Delaware and to determine the point of starting, the "great due west line." They could not make

and the proprietors resident in London became impatient and sent out, in August, 1763, Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, two celebrated astronomers and surveyors of England. They came, and it took them till near the end of 1764 to run the boundaries of Delaware and fix the initial point of the "great due west line," near the circle.

In June, 1765, they began the celebrated line that bears their names. By the end of 1765 they came to the Kittantinny Mountain, west of the Cumberland Valley, to which a quarter of a mile north a temporary line had been run in 1739. On the 4th of June, 1766, they reached little Alleghany Mountain, west of Wills Creek, but turned back for fear of Indians.

In June, 1767, the proprietors obtained consent of the Six Nations, who claimed the territory over which the line was then being carried, to run it out. The Indians also furnished an escort to accompany the surveyors. On the 24th of August, 1767, they came to Braddock's road, three miles southeast of Petersburg, Pennsylvania, and here the escort of the Six Nations left them. They then pushed on, and during September run the line along the present northern boundary of Preston. The Delaware and Shawnees claimed to be tenants of the country, and threatened the party, but did nothing farther until October, when they stopped the surveyors at the second crossing of Dunkard Creek on the Warrior branch of the Great Catawba war path. Mason and Dixon had went, however, beyond their call to settle the line between the Penns and Baltimore. Their west limit was to be a meridian of the first fountain of the Potomac.

The timber was cut down 12 feet on each side of the line. Every five miles from the starting point to Sidleling Hill a stone post was planted with a P on the north and an M on the south side. These posts were brought from England. From Sidleling Hill to the top of the Alleghanies heaps of stone were raised; west of the Alleghanies, stone piles were heaped up every mile, several of which are still visible along

the Preston County line, where some years ago some persons dug in two or three of them in quest of supposed buried wealth.

When Mason and Dixon stopped, they left what was supposed to be 23½ miles yet to be run to the western terminus of the five degrees, which was afterwards found to be only a mile and three-fourths too far.

When the Penns found their line would reach 54 miles west of Maryland, they asserted a right against Virginia to go down on the Maryland and Virginia (now West Virginia) line to line 39 degrees of north latitude, the southern beginning of the 40th degree of north latitude. Virginia resisted, first, by claiming to go up to line 40 degrees, the northern ending of the 40th degree of north latitude; second, by claiming all of southwestern Pennsylvania by right of conquest, as, in 1754-58, Virginia troops took it from the French and Indians. Pennsylvania, by her interpretation of where the 40th degree ended, took all of Preston County and went below Virginia, by her claim of where the 39th degree extended, too took a large part of Fayette and Greene, and by her right of conquest included Pittsburgh; Virginia also claimed that Penn's grant was to be a due line south, subtended from where the Delaware River intersected the line of the 42d degree, and by this Pittsburgh was 50 miles west of the western terminus of this line. The Penns claimed a curvilinear line, five degrees of longitude west of the Delaware at every point. Mason and Dixon computed a degree of longitude in the latitude of their line to be 53 miles and 167 perches, making the whole length of their line 267 miles 195 perches.

From 1774 to 1780, Virginia maintained a divided sway over a portion of what is now southwestern Pennsylvania, erecting Youghogania County on its soil, and parts of Ohio and Monongalia counties. Settlers took up land on this disputed territory under Virginia at 10 shillings per hundred acres, and under Pennsylvania at 5 pounds sterling, often the same piece was taken under both provinces, which was after-

ward settled by the one first taking up holding the same.

In 1779 and '80, Virginia sent Philip Pendleton, Joseph Holmes and another commissioner to adjust land titles in her three western counties. Pennsylvania and Virginia, in 1779, sent commissioners to Baltimore City to settle the disputed Pennsylvania and Virginia boundary line. In August, they came to an understanding, and agreed that the Maryland and Delaware line should be extended to the end of five degrees from the river Delaware, and run north to line of north latitude 42 degrees. This agreement was ratified by Pennsylvania in November, 1879, and by Virginia in June, 1780.

Colonel Alexander M'Clean for Pennsylvania, and Joseph Neville for Virginia, in 1781, run out the line temporarily 23 miles west from where Mason and Dixon stopped, and then northward to the Ohio River. In 1784, it was run permanently by eminent men. This joint commission determined the length of the line west from the Delaware by time. It divides in two parties; one stays on the Delaware, the other goes west to the temporary west extension point of 1782. Both erect observatories, correct their time-pieces by siderial calculations, and then come together, and carefully calculate and fix the west line terminus-point of the five degrees west from the Delaware, on the slope of a fish Creek hill, near the Board Tree Tunnel on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and mark the spot with a rude square whiteoak post, around which was piled a conical heap of stones. In 1785, the line was run north to where it cut the Ohio River, and where Virginia ended by her cession of the Northwest Territory made in 1784. Fifty miles more was run north from the Ohio, and in 1786 it was completed to Lake Erie, between Pennsylvania and the Northwest Territory.

With the consideration of this celebrated line, naturally came up the disputed line between Maryland and West Virginia on the east of Preston County. After collecting some material for the purpose of tracing its history, we were referred to a letter from the Hon. Charles James Faulkner upon the subject, published in the *Preston County Herald* of

April 24th, 1875, which gives its history so full that we take the following extracts from it, whose importance will be apology for their length. The letter is addressed to James H. Carroll and E. O. Ludwig, and dated at Martinsburg, April 17, 1875.

"Gentlemen:—When I was recently on a visit to your clean and attractive county seat, Kingwood, my attention was called by you, and by Hon. William G. Brown, to the subject of the boundary lines which separates the county of Preston from the State of Maryland. You spoke of the annoyances, and even wrongs which the people of the eastern portion of your county suffered from the uncertainty of that division line, the insecurity of legal titles, the seizures by the sheriff of Alleghany, now Garrett, County, of the property of citizens of Preston for taxes claimed by the State of Maryland, and other grievances of a similar character.

"The territory of Maryland granted by Charles I. to Lord Baltimore in June, 1632, was described in the grant as 'that region bounded by a line drawn from Watkins' Point on Chesapeake bay to the ocean on the east, thence to that part of the estuary of Delaware on the north which lieth under the 40th degree where New England is terminated; thence in a right line by the degree aforesaid to the meridian of the fountain of the Potomac; thence following its course by its farther bank to its confluence.' It is plain, then, that the western boundary of this grant was the meridian of the fountain of the Potomac from the point where it cut the 40th degree of north latitude to the fountain of that river. Virginia we have always considered that point as definitely fixed by the planting of the Fairfax Stone in 1746; but Maryland, not regarding herself as any party to the proceeding under which this point was ascertained, controverted the binding effect of that decision of the King in counsel, and asserted other claims founded upon her own construction of her charter.

"You are doubtless aware that the territory granted to

Lord Baltimore was undoubtedly within the chartered limits of Virginia, and was the first example of the dismemberment of a colony, and the creation of a new one within its limits, by the mere act of the crown. Virginia protested against this invasion of her chartered rights, and always held that the grant of Maryland, as derogatory to those rights, was utterly void, until the commencement of our revolutionary struggles, when by her constitution adopted on the 29th of June, 1776, she, in that spirit of magnanimity and self-sacrificing patriotism which has always so pre-eminently distinguished her, ceded to the colony of Maryland the territory contained within her charter, with all the rights of property, jurisdiction and government which might at any time here-tofore have been claimed by Virginia.

"The State of Maryland, seemingly unmindful of this generous conduct of Virginia, commenced, shortly after the close of the revolutionary war, to assert a right to that portion of our territory embracing near half a million acres of land, and comprehended within the counties of Mineral, Hardy, Grant, Pendleton, Randolph, Tucker and Preston, she holding that the South Branch of the Potomac was the true head source of that river, it being the longer and larger of the two streams. This claim she continued to assert in the form of resolutions adopted by her legislature, and in communication from the executive of that State from 1790; and it is curious to notice how many of the most distinguished men of Maryland, in the form of commissioners appointed, or as advocates of that pretension, figured in its history. Among them were Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, William Pinkney, Philip Barton Key, Gabriel Devall, Reverdy Johnson, John V. L. McMahon, B. S. Pigman, and many others almost equally conspicuous for their learning and abilities. Encouraged by the advice of her eminent lawyers Maryland, about the year 1832, filed a bill in the Supreme Court of the United States, asserting a legal demand to that important portion of our territory. It was then that the Virginia legislature took action upon it, and I

was appointed a commissioner on behalf of the State, to make a report upon this claim to the Governor. * * *

"I ascertained that there was a trunk in the possession of the representatives of Lord Fairfax in Virginia which had not been opened for many years, and which it was supposed might contain all the documents that I was in pursuit of. I obtained permission to examine that trunk, and there I found all the original grants of the crown, with the royal seals and signatures annexed, and all the documents which had resulted from a litigation of sixteen years, and which conclusively established in our favor the point then in controversy between Maryland and Virginia. A list of those papers, numbering twenty-six, may be seen in my report to the Governor of Virginia. When my report was published and transmitted to the Governor and members of the legislature of Maryland, evidence derived from these documents and papers was so overwhelming and conclusive that orders were given for the immediate dismission of the bill filed in the Supreme Court of the United States, and the claim to the territory lying west of the South Branch utterly abandoned.

"There remained, then, but a single open question between the two States, so far as the western boundary of Maryland was concerned, and that was the initial point at which the survey of that western line was to commence. Commissioners had been appointed by the two States in 1824 to run and mark that line. Those acting on the part of Maryland were J. Boyle and E. F. Chambers; those on behalf of Virginia were H. L. Opie, Thompson F. Mason and Herman Boye. These gentlemen met at Smith's Tavern in August, 1824, but it was soon discovered that an irreconcilable difficulty precluded any successful negotiation. The Virginia commissioners came there under instructions to make the Fairfax Stone the initial point of the survey. The Maryland commissioners contended that the Fairfax Stone was not situated at the most western source of the North Branch, the point of beginning specified in the Maryland law; that the difference between the two places of beginning embraced a section of country about one mile in width and thirty-six miles in length, which was deemed too important to be abandoned, unless under express instructions to that effect. The commission here closed its ineffectual labors.

"By virtue of an act passed by the Virginia legislature on the 5th of March, 1833, I was appointed one of the commissioners to meet such commissioners as might be appointed for the same purpose by the State of Maryland, to settle and adjust, by mutual compact between the two governments, the dividing and boundary line between those States, to commence at the Fairfax Stone, and to run due north to intersect the Pennsylvania line, with full authority to employ surveyors, chain carriers and markers. It was further provided by the same act, that if Maryland failed, or refused to appoint commissioners, then we should proceed to run and mark the said line according to the provisions of the said act. Maryland refused to appoint commissioners, because she was not then prepared to recognize the Fairfax Stone as the initial point of the survey; and although I had full authority to run and mark the line according to the views of Virginia, yet upon consultation with the Governor, it was deemed not expedient to proceed with that work in the absence of a representative of the State of Maryland.

"So matters continued until 1852, when Maryland, by an act passed in that year, expressly recognized the Fairfax Stone as the beginning point, and invited Virginia to appoint commissioners to run and mark the line in accordance with the long announced views of Virginia. This offer was accepted by Virginia by an act passed in 1858, and the line was run accordingly in 1859 by commissioners McDonald and Lee, with the assistance of Lieut. Michler, of the U. S. Coast Survey.

"I have read with much interest the report of Lieut. Michler of the U. S. Corps of Topographical Engineers, and have only to regret that the want of funds, and the occur-

rence of our civil troubles, prevented his completing the work assigned to him as fully as it was his purpose to do. He commenced his survey starting from the Fairfax Stone on the 17th of June, 1859. 'That stone,' he says, 'stands on a spot encircled by several small streams flowing from the springs about it. It consists of a rough piece of sandstone, indifferent and friable, planted to the depth of a few feet in the ground, and rising a foot or more above the surface. Shapeless in form, it would scarce attract the attention of the passer by. The finding of it was without difficulty, and its recognition and identification, by the inscription 'Fix,' now almost obliterated by the corroding action of water and air.'

"He seems to have been abundantly supplied with instruments by the United States Bureau of Topographical Engineers. They consisted of a large portable astronomical transit, a zenith telescope, a sextant and artificial horizon, two theodolites, three surveyor's compasses, with chains and pins, two cistern barometers, one sidered and two mean solar box chronometers, together with other necessary articles appertaining to such surveys. His party seemed to be in numbers fully adequate to the performance of the work. It consisted of one principal surveyor, Mr. John de la Camp; one computor, Mr. Louis Daser; one guide, five men as instrument bearers, rodmen and chainmen; one attendant on observatory; from five to ten axe-men, according to circumstances, and one cook.

"The survey seems to have been made with great care and attention. 'Upon removing the instrument from the first principal station,' he says, 'a monument of stone was erected to mark the spot where it stood. It was then carried to the second principal station—the same work gone through with as at Fairfax Stone. By sighting back to the first monument, the transit was at once placed in position on the meridian; and observations on high and low stars verified the accuracy of the line. The same process was gone through with at every succeeding transit station. The

point on the backbone of the mountains is well marked by nature, as it stands on a sharp ridge, and within a few feet of its highest point. The view from this point was most extensive and magnificent. The eye could look for miles in every direction. The valleys of the Cheat, the Blackwater, the Potomac and the Youghiogheny rivers, all could be traced early in the morning, or late at evening, by the white lines of delicate fog rising up from the water. To the south lay impenetrable forests, whilst to the north farms and glades were spread out before the admiring gaze. A visit to this station, not far from the head springs of the Youghiogheny, is well worth the trouble of the traveler.'

"The line of the survey, and the initial and terminating points, seem to have been distinctly marked. The terminating point on the Pennsylvania, or what is generally called Mason and Dixon's Line, is within a few feet of where the turnpike leading from Cranberry Summit to Smithfield in Pennsylvania, crosses the boundary of that State. Its position is therefore easily found. A monument of cut stone designates the spot. Each of the principal stations, and also the intersection of the line with the North West Turnpike and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, are marked in the the same way. The total length of the western meridian is about thirty-seven miles. With the exception of a few miles along the entire distance, a broad open cut from twenty to forty feet through a heavily timbered country has been made, which will serve to mark it for many years to come.

"The meridian traced by Lieut. Michler in the summer of 1859, differs from all previous lines run, some varying too far to the east, others too far to the west. The oldest one and that generally adopted by the inhabitants as the boundary line, passes to the east; and from measurements made to it, he found that it was not very correctly run. The surveyor's compass was used for the purpose, and some incorrect variation of the needle allowed. As the Pennsylvania line is approached, the settlements and farms become more

numerous; and if the meridian line as traced by Lieutenant Michler is adopted, it may cause some litigation, as the patents of most of the lands call for the boundary as their limits. On the Pennsylvania boundary, the new line is about three quarters of a mile west of the old; on the railroad, —— feet; at Weill's field, eighty-five feet; on the North West Turnpike, about forty feet; and the backbone, about twenty feet.

"By an act passed by the State of Maryland on the 5th of March, 1860, she declared that the north western line of that State 'is a line commencing at Fairfax's Stone at the head of the North Branch of the Potomac river, and running thence due north to the southern line of the State of Pennsylvania surveyed in the year 1859 by the comissioners appointed by the States of Maryland and Virginia in conformity with the laws passed by the said States for that purpose.' Thus Maryland has fully adopted the line as indicated by the survey of Lieut. Michler. The report, though regularly communicated to the Virginia legislature at its session of 1859–60 was not formally acted on; but as it recognized the line as Virginia had always asserted it, it may not have been considered necessary."

Preston County is elevated from 800 to 2000 feet above the level of the sea. Its mountains are comprised in two ranges; the eastern range, called Briery Mountain, extends from north by east to south by west, and was known by the Indians and early settlers as Laurel Hill Range. The western range was known in early days as Chestnut Ridge, yet to-day is called Laurel Hill. It extends along the western border of the county in pretty much the same direction as the eastern range.

Its main river is Cheat, running through the county from south to northwest, and very near equally dividing the county. It receives all its tributaries of any size from the east. It is a wild, impetuous and rocky stream, with water fall

sufficient to run all the machinery employed in factories and manufacturing establishments, sites for which exist in many places on its banks. One of the headwaters of the Yougiogheny rises in the southeastern part of the county.

We turn now to the geology of the county. Geologists claim that during the azoic and palaeozoic periods of the earth's geological history, the district in which Preston County is included was a level plain, and that its mountains date their origin from a later period but prior to the carboniferous or coal age, while many theories have been advanced for their upheaval. The mountains in Preston County are entirely free from morasses, swamps and boggy soils, and consequently their freshness and purity of air and water render them the healthiest portion of our country. This fact does draw to some degree, and should draw to a large degree, persons in ill-health from our large cities during the sultry months of summer to these mountains, whose pure air, bright water, pleasant days and cool nights work wonders in renewing exhausted vitality and benefiting pronounced incurables.

Preston County lies principally within the Ligonier Valley, the Newburg trough or basin and the Cumberland Valley. The celebrated Ligonier Valley enters the county from the north. It is canoe-shaped, and is topographically well defined, being embraced between the eastern slope of Chestnut Ridge on the west and the crest-line of Laurel Hill Ridge on the east.

It has an average width of 15 miles, and is over 20 miles in length, containing over 300 square miles and 200,000 acres of land. While topographically well defined as a valley, yet high hills extend through the center. What is known as the Preston axis, is a spur running from the axis of Chestnut Ridge where Cheat breaks it so as to join Laurel Hill or Kingwood axis. The direct axis of Chestnut Ridge follows a southwest course, constantly decreasing in hight south. On Decker's Creek the Pottsville conglomerate forms the arch and carries patches of the lower productive coal series, and beyond a short distance the flattening of the fold of the

ridge is observed. The geologist some years ago who slightly examined the Ligonier Valley, reported that the exposed rocks within its basin generally belonged to the lower series, with some outlying areas of the upper productive coal measures. The Newburg trough, as it has been called, is but the extreme southern portion of the Leionier Valley, elevated and cut off, taking its name from the heavy vein of coal within it, known by the local name of the Newburg vein.

That portion of Preston lying east of the Laurel Hill Range is mostly a high elevated plain, and destitute of coal. It is within the Cumberland Valley, and is abundantly supplied with limestone. The geological structure of the county is but imperfectly understood. Cheat River cutting its way through both ranges of mountains, affords a good opportunity for the study of the strata, and we give below a description of them by Prof. I. C. White, of the West Virginia University, late assistant geologist of the second geological survey of Pennsylvania. Prof. White ranks high as a leading geologist, and from his personal examination of Cheat River, gives a report that can be depended upon as trustworthy in every particular:

"The following section of the strata on Cheat River, exposed in the vicinity of the 'Great Falls,' will represent the character of the rock at many localities along the river beginning on top of the hills:

- "1. Shales and sandstone, 100 feet.
- "2. Coal, '4 foot vein,' worked in the hill at Masontown, $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet.
 - "3. Shales, drab or reddish, 65 feet.
- "4. Massive sandstone, pebbly, seen in immense blocks along the Morgantown road 5 miles from Kingwood; the lower portion often an excellent building stone, sometimes in two beds, an upper and lower, with shales and a small coal-bed intervening; the whole stratum is known as the Mahoning Sandstone, and its thickness along Cheat River in Preston is 125 feet.
 - "5. Ccal—the Upper Freeport bed of Pennsylvania; the

one mined along the Morgantown road, 3 miles from Kingwood, where it is only 3 to 4 feet thick; also, the same bed that is mined southeast of Kingwood, near Albrightsville, where it is 9 feet thick, and near Masontown, where it is 11 feet. This is the coal-bed of Preston County, since it comes so far up in the hills as to be easily accessible at hundreds of localities.

- "6. Shales often containing iron ore, 10 feet.
- "7. Freeport Limestone, 12 feet. This limestone is often absent, however, and is sometimes partly replaced by an iron ore known as the 'Olyphant Blue Lump.' This limestone is a splendid fertilizer, and owing to its proximity to the great coal-bed immediately above, should be used extensively by every farmer who has access to it.
 - "8. Shales and sandstones, 150 feet.
- "9. Coal—Darlington bed; the one that has been mined by stripping along the steep hill near the bridge at Albrightsville; usually a very good coal; thickness, 2 to 3 feet.
- "10. Shales, often containing a limestone, which is the famous Cement bed of Johnstown, Pa., 5 feet.
- "11. Shales and sandstones, occasionally containing a coalbed (the Kittanning), and some iron ore near the center; usual thickness, 85 feet.
- "12. The Great Conglomerate, consisting of massive beds of pebbly sandstone, very hard and often white enough for glass making, usually divided into two or three layers, with shales and occasionally thin and irregular coal-beds intervening. At the Albrightsville bridge the top of this formation is below river level a few feet, but a short distance above is seen rising rapidly out of the river's bed toward the southeast. It forms the surface rock for a long distance up the mountain toward Cranberry Summit, rising about as fast as the road, but finally outstrips it, and shoots into the air in a great arch, which does not come down again until 5 miles east of Cranberry.

"Going down the Cheat River canon from Albrightsville, this stratum rapidly climbs higher and higher along the mountain sides, until at the Great Falls, 24 miles above the mouth of Sandy Creek, its top is 650 feet above the level of the river; then the dip changes, and it dips down to the northwest, so that when we come to the mouth of Sandy, its top is only 400 feet above river level; here we come to the bottom of the Sandy Creek synclinal, and the dip of the rocks again changing to the southeast, the Conglomerate rises and its top passes over the crest of the Chestnut Ridge axis at the Monongalia and Preston line, 1250 feet above Cheat River; but the dip again being reversed to the northwest, it makes a great sweep downward and passes below the level of Cheat River, opposite Mr. Lev's, one mile above Ice's Ferry, in Monongalia County. This is the great cliff rock everywhere along the gorge of Cheat through the mountains, and it is owing to the hard and unvielding nature of this stratum that the channel of the river is so narrow, and its banks so wild and precipitous. Nearly all the great boulders seen along the bed of Cheat River have rolled down the mountain side from their original bed in this stratum. Many of its layers make unrivaled building stone. The thickness of the entire mass varies from 175 to 200 feet.

"13. The Mauch Chunk Shale, a series of alternating shales, red and drab, interstratified with much greenish flaggy sandstone, the lower portion of which is often massive; sometimes the iron of the red shales is concentrated into a vertical thickness of 1 to 2 feet, and then this series furnishes good beds of iron ore, which is generally found near the top of the formation. It was from this horizon that the principal part of the ore for the old Henry Clay Furnace was obtained near the northern line of Preston. These measures are finely exposed along the timber chute at the Great Falls, near Squire Graham's. Thickness, about 300 feet.

"14 The Umbral, or Mountain Limestone, sometimes called the Crinoidal Limestone, from the abundance of its fossil encrinites; this formation consists of alternate beds of limestone, red or green shale, or thin sandstone. The great body of the stratum, however, is limestone, the most of

which is of superior quality for almost every pupose for which lime is used, and some of it may possibly be pure enough for glass making; many of its layers are crowded with fossil shells, crinoids, corals, etc., and it is a layer of this rock in the bed of the river below the Falls, that has been mistaken by some observers for a bed of marble. This formation is finely seen at the Great Falls of Cheat where it makes the vertical cliffs 200 feet high on its left bank. At the mouth of Sandy, the top of this formation is 100 feet below river level, but it soon rises and forms a long line of cliffs on the right bank of Cheat 600 feet above the bed of the same at the Chestnut Ridge axis below the Beaver Hole.

"Subterranean streams and springs of water readily dissolve and carry off vast quantities of this rock in solution, and thus have been formed the huge caves and underground chambers which are known to exist at many localities along Cheat River in Preston and Monongalia counties. (The great cavern in Fayette County, Pa., and the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky, are also found in this same formation.) It makes the Lower Falls on Decker's Creek, near the Monongalia County line, and is the same bed that is quarried along the mountain road, half-way between the river and Cranberry Summit. The thickness varies greatly, but is seldom less than 100 feet, nor more than 150 in Preston County.

"15. The Pocono or Vespertine Sandstone—a succession of grayish or yellowish white sandstone layers, very hard and difficult to dress; the very smooth rounded boulders seen along the bed of the river throughout its course in Preston County, are mostly fragments of this formation, polished and worn by attrition.

"Fifty feet of this rock is seen just above the bed of Cheat at the Great Falls, and in the Chestnut Ridge axis, below the Beaver Hole, 500 feet of the formation is above river level, and this is the lowest peep that we get in the rocks anywhere along Cheat River between Kingwood and its mouth.

"The Morgantown Sandstone does not come into the Cheat River hills until we pass below Ice's Ferry in Monongalia County, since it comes too high up in the rock series, being 400 feet above the Mahoning Sandstone."

The above article was written by Prof. White especially for this work.

The coal, iron ore and limestone will be noticed in detail in the district chapters of the work.

The Ligonier Valley and the Newburg trough are underlaid with several veins of bituminous coal of the best quality; and this great coal-bed, comprising nearly all the county, is, as yet, known as the Preston County coal-basin. In the Ligonier Valley are all the Lower Coal and Lower Barren Measures. In the Newburg Trough, the tops of the highest hills carry the first or Pittsburgh seam of the Upper Coal Measures. M. F. Maury reckons five seams in this field, and believes that a careful search will reveal more, supposing, however, that they will be small, else they would have been discovered before this.

The first or lowest seam is visible in the bottom of Cheat River at a time of low water, a short distance west of Kingwood. Just below this place the shales that overlie this seam contain four or five bands of iron ore.

The second seam varies from 2 to 4 feet. It is worked for local use, and while valuable as fuel, yet contains quite a quantity of sulphur.

Between seams number one and two appears a vein of limestone, from 4 to 5 feet thick, which is often used for building purposes.

The third seam, in places, is from 2 to 4 feet, while in others it has a thickness of from 7 to 8 feet, and makes a good article of fuel. Three miles south of the mouth of Big Buffalo Creek it measures 4 feet, and but 2 miles south by southwest of the same place, it swells to 5 feet; and at the head of Deep Hollow Run it is but 20 inches. Opposite Kingwood, it again attains to from 7 to 8 feet in thickness including the partings, and gives about 5 feet of good coal, of which 3 feet is in one bed. It improves in quality with its increase in thickness. At Austen is another expansion

of this stratum, varying from 8 to 9 feet, and yielding 4 feet of solid coal at the bottom, which is worked, making an excellent article for fuel.

Prof. J. P. Lesley says of this vein at Austen: "It makes a clear even silvery coke, sufficiently hard to bear the heaviest burden of the blast furnace." A seam of iron ore from 16 to 20 inches thick is seen 30 feet below it. This vein is called the Austen Coal, and is near the top of the Lower Coal Measures; and is the "Upper Freeport" as known elsewhere.

The fourth seam is 300 feet above the Austen or Upper Freeport, and is in the Lower Barren Measures. It contains 3 feet of an excellent quality of coal.

The fifth seem is 150 feet above the fourth, and is the lowest number of the Upper Coal Group, being the same as that worked near Piedmont. It occupies the center of the Preston County Coal Basin in the tops of the hills at Newburg, and yields an excellent article of gas coal, being from 10 to 12 feet in thickness, though but about 9 feet are worked, the remainder being left for a roof.

In the northern part of the county the hills are too low to catch this fifth seam, known as the Newburg vein or Pittsburgh seam, and in the southern part of the county we have no account of its being found, likely from the reason that the tops of the hills are too low to catch it.

Iron ore of splendid quality exists in abundant quantities, and limestone of different grades seems to be inexhaustible in different parts of the county. Fire-clay and potters' clay of good quality are found and worked. Good sandstone for building purposes abounds.

Salt wells have been sunk, and a good article of salt water obtained, but imperfect methods of manufacture have caused them to go down, and no attention is paid to the subject at the present time. When these wells were sunk, some 25 or 30 years ago, in one or two of them crude oil was undoubtedly obtained from the description given of a greasy, soapy substance that came up in small quantities. When the

oil excitement affected Preston, in common with many adjoining counties supposed to be located in the oil belt, wells were sunk, but it is still a matter of considerable doubt if they were properly put down or judicious locations selected for boring. At the present a well is being bored with reported favorable indications of oil. Wells have been bored in the county according to different theories, but the question arises whether the right theory has ever been practiced here in the search for oil. The two latest, most plausible and generally accepted theories for the origin of oil are as follows: First, that it is elaborated from materials in the rock where it is now found; and, second, that it is the product of a gas arising from deeper strata, the sandstones receiving it becoming condensing reservoirs in which it gathers. From actual observation of men who have made the subject a daily study, it appears that no flowing wells have ever been struck below tide level, and that the deepest paying oil-wells are not over 2000 feet deep. A great many facts reported by parties boring for oil are not to be relied upon, as the employed are often ignorant of the proper method and right means of making a fair and honest record of their borings, while others misstate them from selfish motives.

Oil is supposed to be a vegetable product, from the fact that it is always connected with accumulations of palaeozoic sea-weeds, whose marks are in the rocks in which it is found. It will require years of close observation and study by patient and pains-taking investigators before much can be determined with scientific accuracy of the great illuminating agent imprisoned in the rocks.

The surface of Preston County may be described as mountainous, hilly, rolling and glady. The soil varies, being classed as sand-loam, clay-loam and calcareous loam. The rugged surface in many places in the county renders the country roads bad and broken, but the turnpikes and those along the larger streams are in fair condition, and are good as to grade and bed.

Throughout Preston County the soil could be made to

produce better, if farmers were but aware of the fact that the use of lime would bring better crops, and would well repay the labor and money expended in procuring and applying it to the ground. Of course, it can have no effect on the weather; but with its use, crops would better stand sudden changes than without it.

The soil of Preston can all be made to contribute to the material wealth of its citizens: the glade can be ditched and reclaimed; the general and common average of lands can be renewed to their original productiveness by the use of lime; and the lands too rocky for tillage can be made a source of profit by clearing them off for dairy use, as they do with such lands in the State of New York.

Preston County in her botanical wealth compares favorably with other counties in the State. Her list of medicinal plants is large. Pure air and water give her flowers bright colors; and, passing to her timber, we will notice its distribution and development. The county at an early day was well timbered, but large quantities of it have been wantonly destroyed. Still an abundance remains to supply all needs for home use and demand from abroad. Oak and chestnut seem to be most abundant, with ash, poplar, sugar, hickory, sycamore, beech, wild cherry and pine.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad is the only means of development that amounts to anything. Cranberry Summit is a center of a considerable lumber business, consisting in its collection and preparation for shipment. Ship timber is hauled to this point and shipped, but the principal amount of business is in the manufacture of staves.

At Rowlesburg, where the railroad crosses Cheat River, is another lumber center; and at Tunnelton a considerable amount of timber is worked into lumber and shipped.

Fruit trees do well, apples especially. Small fruits and berries of all kinds are generally abundant. Crops raised are corn, wheat, oats, rye and buckwheat. The soil in the valleys is from 12 to 15 inches deep, and on the hills from 4 to 6 inches. The average yield of grain for 1880 for the

county was, corn 25 to 40; oats, 15 to 25; buckwheat, 20 to 25; rye 12 to 15; wheat, 12 to 16 bushels. Best agricultural lands, \$25 to \$40 per acre; common, \$10 to \$20.

We pass from the botany of the county to its zoology; and pursuing the same order of arrangement in its discussion as in the former subjects of the chapter, we shall avoid as far as possible all technical terms.

The animals of Preston may be considered as of two classes—wild and domesticated. When the county was first settled, a few bison or buffalo were found along Cheat River and its tributaries, but they soon left with the advancing footsteps of the white man. Also, the cruel panther, the fierce wolf, and the sluggish bear roamed the forests; the porcupine and fox were numerous; and wild-cats and catamounts were abundant. While the panther, the bear and the wolf have left, the porcupine, fox, wild-cat and catamount. though fewer in numbers, yet remain. The streams were alive with fish—the trout, salmon, perch, chub and cat; and on Muddy Creek the beaver built his dam; but the beaver has left, and only a few otter remain of a goodly number one day thick in every stream of any size. Serpents were numerous. The venomous rattlesnake and the poisonous copperhead of the serpent tribe, lay in almost ever path, and still a few of them remain in secluded places.

The eagle, the owl, the hawk, threatened the fowls of the early settlers; and occasionally yet the broad wing of a wandering eagle beats the air far up in the sky; and from the gloom of some deep hidden depth comes up the dismal hoot of the owl. Birds of song and beauty are lessening every day in number with the clearing away of the forests.

In the place of the wild beasts of the forest, man has introduced domesticated animals—herds of cattle, flocks of sheep, and numbers of horses feed in the meadows where once dense forests shaded the earth. The tame turkey has taken the place of his wild brother, who yet ventures back at the risk of death from the hunter's rifle. The light-footed deer gamboled over the hills, and a few elk stalked through

the woods a century ago; but the last elk seen in the county is beyond the memory of the oldest man now living; while the deer still lurks in the fastness of the mountain, and when roused by the hound and pursued by the hunter, its graceful form is lost amid the woods, and it often pays with its life for the privilege of remaining in the forest wilds of the mountains of Preston.

West Virginia has been designated the Switzerland of America, and Preston County the Vermont of West Virginia. The county is one half as large as the State of Delaware, and over nine times as large as the District of Columbia.

The climate of the county will be fully considered in the district chapters, and nothing further need be said of it here, except that it is very healthful. A morning drive in Preston in summer when the air is rich with the scent of the buckwheat bloom and the ripening fruit in the orchard, is worth a trip of many miles to enjoy, whether through the shadows of the cool woods or through the open country, where on every side smiling valleys and forest slopes of green mountains spread out like a fair picture to charm with its inviting beauty, there is delight for every weary traveler who drinks in the morning air, as if it were charged with a tonic vigor.

CHAPTER XII.

MILITARY HISTORY.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR—SOLDIERS OF THE WAR OF 1812—MEXICAN WAR—THE GREAT REBELLION: SOLDIERS, SAILORS—MILITIA: 104th, 148th and 176th regiments, 10th brigade, 3rd division.

At the opening of the Revolutionary War there were but a few settlers on the soil of Preston County, and they were busily engaged protecting their families from the murderous attacks of the cruel Indians, and could not leave home to serve in the ranks of the American armies. When the Revolution was over Washington laid down his sword and devoted himself to the pursuits of peace. His noble soldiery, following his example, retired to their homes, ready to engage in the trying conflicts of peace, for

"Peace hath her victories No less renowned than war."

And instead of the war of cannon along contending lines, was heard the crash of falling trees along the frontier clearings. Instead of the rattle of musketry, were heard the strokes of the woodsman's ax. Instead of blazing camp-fires, heaps of burning logs and brush marked the home of the settler. The smoke that darkened the green hills and solemn wood was no longer the smoke of battle: it was the curtain of peace. The soldier had become a settler. The same strong

arms that had struck telling blows for liberty and independence, were now striking down the kings of the forest.

Preston's wilds enlisted their full quota of the disbanded patriots; and the county opens up actively with the close of that ever memorable struggle. Into the county came some of these soldiers. Their names, as far as can be ascertained, will be given in the district chapters.

In the war of 1812, Captain Cupp's company was at Fort Meigs on the northern frontier, and one company was at Norfolk on the sea coast; but beyond these facts, no farther information can be secured, and after patient and continued research the following roll of soldiers in the war of 1812 from Preston has been obtained:

SOLDIERS OF THE WAR OF 1812.

Captain Leonard Cupp's Company, Virginia Militia. Thiseompany volunteered in Preston County, Va., rendezvoused at Morgantown, marched to Point Pleasant, where they were reorganized, and from there they marched to Fort Meigs, where they served a term of six months. This company experienced great hardships on the march to Fort Meigs, often having to cut bushes to lie on at night to keep them out of the water.

Officers—Captain, Leonard Cupp; lieutenants, Jacob Paul; ensign, Robert Gibson; sergeants, Wm. Brandon, Henry Synes, George Smith and Peter Reihart; corporals, Jacob, John and Jacob Wolff, Jr. and John Synes. Privates—John Bryte, Levi Bryte, Wm. Boyce, Jacob Cale, John Cupp, Peter Earley, Joseph Earley, Wm. Edenfield, John Feather, Michael Hartman, Jonathan Jenkins, Evan Jenkins, Usuel Johnson, John Kimmery, James Kelley, Edward Larew, Henry Miller, James Miller, Jacob Martin Abraham Penrose, George Kinger, W. Syner, Henry Syner, Samuel Smith, Adam Teets, Christian Teets, Michael Teets, Jacob Teets, Wm. Waller, Samuel Waller, Joseph Waller, Samuel Wolff, Henry Woods, Solomon Wilhem and Eli Deberry.

Captain Matthias McCowan's Company in Lt.-Col. E. Boyd's Va. Militia, from April 30 to June 28, 1814. This company volunteered in Preston County to serve three months, and marched to Norfolk, Va., where they served their term of service. A number who volunteered in this company, after their arrival at Norfolk, volunteered in Captain Kennedy's artillery company, whose muster rolls appear below: Officers—Captain, Mathias McCowan; lieutenants, Thomas Montgomery and Hiram Hansford; ensigns, James King and John Stephenson; sergeants, John Hull, Amariah McGrigg, Levi Ross, Cunningham McColgon and Robert Johnson; corporals, Eli Bently, Rice Miller, Jesse Cain,

Henry Harris, John D. Maupin and Wm. Bohan. Musicians -George Corbin (drummer) and James Hayman (fifer). Privates. — Altz Adams, Eli Anderson, Isaac Asher, Ezekiel Aldeman, Samuel Billups, Meredith Bird, Samuel Beach, Stephen Bice, Arnold Bohand, Isaac Callison, William Chilcot, David Chilcot, Robert Curry, John J. Carto, William Curny, John Duke, James Day, John Deatz, John Dewit, Henry Dewit, Adam Deatz, William Edwards, John Foster, James Frame, Philip Fout, James Givens, William Gribble, John Goff, John Gilmore, James Goodman, John Greathouse, John Hicks, Abel Huddleson, Elliot Hawkins, Achilles Hicks, Abner Howel, John D. Hobright, John Hubbert, William Hendrick, Peter Hannick, Jiles Hally, Isaac Hugh, John Hill, Jilson Hannick, William Hatfield, Abraham Hays, Thomas Heb, John Harris, Charles Harrison, John Jenkins, Henry Johnson, Thomas Jopling, Edward Irwin, Joshua Lawson, Benjamin Jeffers, William Jones, Elisha Jones, Peter Kingory, William King, John Kilburn, Elisha Legg, Benjamin Lawson, David McColgin, Moses Moss, George McNeely, Robert McCoy, Jacob Newal John Newel, Richard Oly, Westly Payne, John Parson, Jacob Parsinger, Jonathan Pearson, Wm. Pearson, Wm. C. Philips, Benjamin Parsinger, Christopher Ringsburg, William Rich, William Roach, Aaron Rice, William Roberts, Noah Robinson, Alexander Ragsdale, William A. Saint, Jordon Smith, Solomon Sevier, Frederick Snider, Anderson Stephenson, Thomas Thomas, Nothan Vanzant, Benjamin Wells, John Williams, Thomas Wyat, James Walker, George Whitsell, John Wallace, William Winos, John Weaver, Samuel Wise, Francis Wilson, Andrew Wilson, Joseph Wright, Joseph Windon, James Wheeler. James Williams.

Captain Samuel Kennedy's Company, Virginia Militia, was not raised in Preston County, but was composed of a number who volunteered for the artillery service from Captain McCowan's company after their arrival at Norfolk. Officers—Captain, Samuel Kennedy; lieutenants, Michael Shively

and Robert Courtney; sergeants, John Shively, George Bell, Josiah Little and Noah Ridgway; corporals, Philip Shively, James Hamilton, Levi Jones and Abraham Huffman. Musician—Fielding Ramsey (drummer). Privates—John Amos, Amariah Augustine, William Ayers, John Butler, Benjamin Butler, William Burris, Harvey Burnes, John Brumasin, Mathew Campbell, John Clayton, Ananias Davis, John Davis, William Davis, Eli Fanner, Thomas Glisson, Robert Guthrie, Edmund Guthrie, Jacob Gilmore, Jesse Hanway, John Haught, Jacob Haughtman, Isaac Hunce, David Jackson, Samuel Jewell, John King, Gabriel Leap, William Lollis, Job Lee, Samuel Lazzell, John Laidly, William Lemmor, George Laugh, David Mathiney, David Michael, John Myers, James Mooreland, James Montgomery, Robert Meins, John Martin, Henry Pride, Jacob Rodeheaver, Jacob Ringer, Morgan Scott, Thomas Scott, George Steel, Ephraim Sayers, John Samuels, Philip Short, Jesse Tucker, Joel Tatler, William Tennant, Caleb Tribbett, Henry Wolfe, Daniel Wolfe, William Woods, John Watts, John Wheeler, John Young.

Lieutenant Christian Con's Company, Virginia Militia, from February 20, to March 4, 1815, of Colonel Wood's regiment. This company was drafted or volunteered at the Webster farm, two miles south of Bruceton, afterward owned by Bowen G. Trowbridge, rendezvoused at Morgantown, marched through Kingwood to the Dunkard Bottom on Cheat River, where they received orders to be discharged, as peace was declared. Officers—Lieutenant, Christian Con; ensigns, Burget Minor and Robert McGuire; sergeants. Richard Conner and James Gibson; corporal, Peter Mason. Musician—Samuel Crane. Privates—Isaac Armstrong, George Benson, Simon Brandon, John Conner, Jacob Frankhouser, Thomas Gibson, Levi Gibson, George Hartman, William Limmin, Thomas McCollum, Nathaniel Metheny, Stephen Osburne, John Starling, David Smith, Daniel Smith, John Sevrance, Philip Sterling, Stephen Zichimal, William Tervie, Charles Walls, Moses Woods, Jacob Cress, Solomon Herndon, John King, James Paugh, Jonathan Johnson, John Stinebuck, John Ashby, William Mitchell, James Metheny, Jacob Metheny, James Benson.

Preston had no organization to represent it in the Mexican war; but Levi L. Bryte, of Grant, and Alexander Jenkins of Reno District, entered the army from this county, and a few others whose names can not be obtained.

SOLDIERS IN THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

When the crisis of Rebellion came, Preston responded promptly to the call of the President of the United States for troops. Her hardy sons, inured to hard labor, endured the fatigues of the march and the privations of camp-life, and were soldiers as noble as their forefathers who followed the fortunes of Washington in the Revolutionary struggle.

It is no easy task to give a full roster of Preston's soldiers, as numbers enlisted in companies raised in other States and counties. We have secured a list of the names of some of those who served in Maryland companies. Company K, 3d Regt. Md. Vol. Infantry. Second lieutenant M. S. Bryte; Sergeant David Graham; corporals John Watson, William Metheny, William Cale and N. P. Snith; Musician Daniel H. Martin; and Privates William Chidester, Amos Wolfe, Lewis Wolfe, Silas Metheny, Samuel B. Sisler, William T. Gooding, John Gray, A. J. Sanders, E. Albright, Jonathan Walls, William Rigg, N. G. Martin and Lewis Recard. Cheif Musician Henry Smith died of small-pox.

The Sixth West Virginia Infantry was organized in August, 1861, General Rosecranz commanding. It was recruited to fifteen companies by special authority. It was mustered into the service for the special duty of guarding the B. & O. R. R. Companies F and O were Preston men, as follows:

Company F. Officers—Captain, William Hall; lieutenants, John H. Carrico and Valentine Gallion; sergeants, Henry H. Wheeler, James A. Bowermaster, Horace M. Call, Peyton Carson, James A. Carrico, Eli F. Nine, Edward A. Bennett, (promoted to Ser. Maj.) and Reiten W. Hall (promoted to Q. M. Ser.); corporals, Joshua M. Grimes, Joseph Biggs, Henry Bishoff, George W. Chidester, John C. Plum, Samuel M. Funk, Joseph T. Rhodes, George W. Hartman, Samuel Knotts, James Hooton, Henry Felton, L. M. Trowbridge and David Grim. Privates—Joseph A. Annan (promoted

to Com. Ser.), Eli L. Adams, Philip Ayresman, H. S. O. Bowden, Peter Bohon, Paul Bohon, William H. Baugh, Moses C. Beavers, John F. Beaver, John G. Beain, William W. Beatty, John A. Bishoff, Michael Burke, Landon Bell, Hiram F. Carson, Alfred B. Call, James Collins, Jacob Cale, James A. Carson, Anthony Carr, Moses Cassidy, Leonard M. Deakins, Robert S. Davis, John L. Davis, Benjamin Davis, John H. Deets, James A. Emerson, Abraham Elsey, Jacob Elliott, Stephen Evans, Samuel W. Ervin, Dabney K. Ford, John E. Fries, Nathaniel C. Graham, John C. Griffith, Alpheus Goff, Elisha Goff, Henry Grim, Gustavus B. Giles, David Harsh, Daniel F. Harsh, John C. Hebb, Thornton F. Hebb, Robert H. Hebb, Charles S. M. Hooton, William H. Hall, John W. Heckart, Henry Hey, Andrew Jackson, Elisha H. Jackson, Samuel J. Jackson, John M. Jones, George Jackson, Absolom Knotts, William C. Knotts, Timothy King, Roger Kerrigan, Isaiah C. Liston, Henry M. Lantz, Daniel Lipscomb, Sylvester Lipscomb, David H. Lipscomb, Philip Lynch, Stewart S. Lambert, John G. Mason, Elisha Mason, Lewis May, William D. Martin, Edward Messenger, S. W. Messenger, Luke McGovern, James McFord, James S. Myers, S. H. Parsons, Granison S. Price, John K. Peaslee, Thomas L. Purinton, Samuel W. Pierce, Jacob Plum, Hyson C. Poynter, Eugenus Plum, Patrick Quinn, John W. Rinehart, Andrew C. Robinson, Laban J. Rogers, Ebenezer Ray, John H. Ridenour, George N. Santmyer, John R. Shaffer, Joseph Stall, Daniel H. Sell, John A. Spangler, Alexander Sinclair, John S. Saunders, James S. Swisher, James Stewart, George W. Sypolt, Jacob A. Steringer, Abraham Trickett, James C. Taylor, Henry G. Wotring, Israel Wolf. Died — Musician, John W. Sypolt; privates, James E. Jackson, James W. Perkins, Aaron C. Ridenour, Joseph Stuckey, William I. Sidwell, Alexander Taylor, Isaac C. Whetsell and William H. Wotring.

Company O. Officers — Captain, Joseph M. Godwin; lieutenants, Joseph Annon, George W. E. Dorsey and Jack-

son C. Saucer; sergeants, John T. Athy, Nathan H. Sypolt, Thomas M. Richards, John W. Lee, John C. Trimbly, and James M. Herndon; corporals, John W. Saucer, Conrad Michael, Allen Butler, William Engle, Michael Hartman, J. R. Harshbarger, J. F. Nordeck, Jr., Eli Albright, Philip J. Sterling, Casper Cutcamp, William Constable, Simon Z. Miller and S. W. Smalley; Musician — Daniel Martin. Privates — Marshall Allen, William Biggs, Henry Blaker, Harmon Blaker, John A. Bucklew, George L. Bosley, Eugenus Bucklew, Alpheus Beatty, Michael Burrows, J. Bucklew, F. Clair, A. Casteel, R. Calhoun, S. Calhoun, Alexander Chisholm, Wm. K. Core, Samuel Constable, Philip Constable, Enoch Calvert, Richard Dewitt, Absalom G. Devall, James M. Devall, William G. Devall, John Ewing, Joseph H. Everly, Elijah Everly, Samuel Evans, David Fields, John Frey, Preston Goff, George W. Goff, John H. Gigley, Elias Gooding, Boreman Gregg, Peter Habig, Michael S. Harvey, James W. Harvey, Elisha Harvey, Jacob Hays, William Hartong, Samuel Husk, Cornelius Johnson, Richard Jeffreys, James H. Jarbo, Andrew J. Ice, Isaac Ice, Enos D. Kessner, John S. Knotts, John S. Kelley, Adam Knisley, Benjamin Kinny, Charles Luch, John A. Liston, Abraham Lee, Enoch Lawson, Abner Liston, James H. Lee, Hezekiah Low, William A. Louran, Samuel Messenger, Van Y. McGinnis, Lemuel J. McGoffin, Samuel McCroby, John Maulsby, Isaiah Markley, James G. Miller, David C. McNemar, B. A. McNemar, Thomas W. Manion, Anthony Nagle, John F. Nordick, Sr., Thomas A. Nethkin, Thornton H. Forman, John S. Perkins, Thomas W. Perkins, Michael Pendergrast, Henry M. Parker, John A. Rodeheaver, Ernest Richards, Alfred Richards, Solomon Sines, William Snider, Salathiel Sterling, Jamison Snider, Simon Snider, Calvin C. Smith, Philip D. Saucer, Benjamin Sowers, Henry Sines, Mathias F. Stuck, Martin Sceill, James W. Shrout, John O. Shear, Franklin Smith, Samuel Teets, Daniel Thomas, Abraham Thomas, Christian Vanvert, Conrad Warner, James H. Wiseman, James H. White, Joseph J. Welch, Samuel Wolf, George W.

White, John D. Whetsell, George W. Weekly, Henry Yoder. Died—privates, Silas Brite, Wm. F. Bosley, Allen W. Collins (musician), Francis Clair, Aaron Devall, Robert J. Liston, Abraham Moore, Thomas Nee, William A. Rodeheaver, George Ramsey, Christopher Saucer, George W. Sowers, William Stoyer, Moses Titchnell.

In Company E were the following Prestonians: Privates—Granville P. Zinn, John W Zinn, Edward D. C. Zinn, William B. Zinn, Marion B. Zinn, Eli Wilt, John A. Beatty, Christian Bolyard, William Braham, Thomas Braham, Alexander Collins, John W. Dumire, Martin V. Goff, Henry Goff, Andrew Harsh, John Moore, Thomas Sanders, David L. Whitehair, John P. Whitehair Thomas G. Zinn, Henry C. Zinn.

In Company I were the following Prestonians: Officers—Sergeants, Samuel Holt, William M. Morgan and Uriah N. Orr; corporals, Andrew J. Myers and Joseph M. Shaw. Privates—William Williams, Barton Field, George W. Field, Allen J. Freeland, William McMullen, Jr., George W. Menear, James P. Orr, Aaron E. Renshaw, John H. Spring, John West James Wallace, George W. Moon, John Miller, Henry C. Helm, Francis M. Menear, Hezekiah Miller, Daniel Piles, George Cassidy, John A. Fortney, James V. Jackson, George B. Jackson, James Renshaw, George Crawford and Richard Miller. Prisoners of War—William H. Helm and S. Trowbridge. Died—William H. H. Cozad, Nathaniel Springer and John Watson.

In Company K were the following Prestonians: Privates — David R. Beavers, George W. H. Beavers, Edward P. Dewitt, Isaiah K. Fortney, Thomas B. Lipscomb, John Mooney, John Martin, Edgar C. Martin, Oscar D. Purinton and David S. Ridenour.

In Company L were the following Prestonians: Officers...

Corporal Isaac Cale. *Privates*—Mathias Boham, Henry Chambers, Andrew J. Cale, John Cale, Andrew T. Dumire and Hiram Grimes.

Seventh Regiment W. Va. Infantry saw very active service, in the leading campaigns in Virginia, and lost heavily. At Reams Station August 25, 1864, the regiment retook a position that had been lost, and as a compliment to their bravery, they were ordered to be furnished with "Henry's sixteen shooting Rifles."

Company A were Prestonians, as follows: Officers— Captain, Samuel Snider (promoted to Lt. Col. 16th W. V.) sergeants, Isaac B. Feather, John C. Felton, Christopher C. Lee, Ernest A Reckart, Henry T. Reckart, and William H. Riley; corporals, James W. Brown, William D. Forman, John Metheney, Hosea Metheney, Jonathan H. Martin, Samuel A. Sisler and Jacob Thomas. Privates — John H. Borgman, William S. Casteel, Solomon Casteel, John H. Casteel, Jefferson Cupp, Jeremiah W. Collins, Daniel J. Dull, George H. Everly, Adam Everly, Henry E. Engle, Nicholas H. Elsey, Jacob C. Elsey, Wm. Edyburn, Josiah H. H. Feathers, Edgar C. Gibson, William H. Hartman, Elisha T. Hayes, George H. Harsh, John Hardesty, Elisha Jenkins, William M. Jenkins, Augustus King, Thomas B. Kirkpatrick, William C. Knotts, Henson Liston, Isaac J. Martin, Jacob T. Martin, James E. Murdock, Daniel Swisher, Jacob F. Shaffer, Jacob Sypolt, Leroy Shaw, Archibald J. Stemple, Moses Titchenell, Noah Titchenell, Michael E. Trembly, Lewis Teets, John Turner, Henry Wilhelm, Jacob Wilhelm, John D. Riggs, Samuel P. Elliott, Elisha Liston, Levi S. Hyde, Elijah Cale, Jacob H. Welch, John L. Everly, Rolla F. Martin, L. F. Falkenstine, Nathaniel Awman, Emanuel Gross, John Ewing and William A. Falkenstine. Died or Killed - Officerslieutenants, Thomas Elliott and Charles Elliott; sergeants, David F. Potter and George Riley; corporals, William G. Jeffreys, James M. Miller, Baptist Mattingly and John S.

Martin. Privates — John W. Creak, Elisha Elsey, Joshua Elsey, David Elsey, Calvin Edyburn, John C. Foglesong, Isaiah Hayes, Elza Kelley, Eugene Liston, William Messenger, John T. McKee, Jacob Myers, John E. Nine, Benjamin F. Shaffer, Salathiel D. Titchenell, James Titchenell, Charles M. Taylor, Richard T. Taggart, James Walls, John W. Dawl, Jacob F. Dull and J. F. Ravenscraft.

The Fourteenth West Va. Infantry was organized at Camp Willey, Wheeling, in August and September, 1862. The regiment was a part of General Duval's brigade, which made a dashing charge at Carter's Farm and routed four times their own numbers of Confederates, and captured 4 pieces of artillery, 250 prisoners and 1000 stand of small arms.

Company B of the Fourteenth were Prestonians: Officers: Captains, John D. Elliott, and Clinton Jeffers; lieutenant, John M. Jeffers; sergeants, Allen Bennett, John C. Crane, James F. Grimes, George L. Bennett and George W. Hartzell; corporals, Joseph J. McKenney, James C. Ashburn, William Southerin, Simon B. Titchenell, John Myers, John Pfeiffer, Miles H. Orr, John Pringly, John Taylor and Morris M. Snider. Musician—Hunter H. Pell. Privates—John H. Bishoff, David D. Rishoff, Noah Bucklew, Marcellus H. Cobun, James M. Cobun, Martin L. Crane, William H. Casteel, Jesse A. Chiles, James W. Chiles, William H. Chidester, Henry Dill, John Dill, William H. Douglass, Robert L. Freeburn, William P. Field, Daniel C Feather, Adam H. Feather, John B. Feather, Thomas Greathouse, James W. Felton. Joseph B. Felton, John Greathouse, John Gower, James Graham, B. Hileman, Calvin A. Holmes, S. A. W. Holmes, Henry A. Hartley, John T. Liston, Aaron Lenhart, James McCaulev, Elisha McKinney, Amos J. Menear, Samuel B. Menear, William C. Menear, David Y. Morris, Joseph McMannis, George Metheny, Nicholas Porter, John A. Parnell, Charles Rodeheaver, Wm. D. Runner, Edward D. Ryan, William M. Ridenour, John H. Smith, W. H. Stafford, Alexander M. Stuck, M. S. Titchenell, Preston

Trowbridge, A. A. Vandervort, Jacob Wilhelm, Fydala Whitehair, Christain A. Wolf, Henry H. Wright, John Watson, Sailor M. Zinn, John A. Rodebaugh and John W. Bishoff. *Died*—Andrew J. Freeland, Jasper Calvert, Francis Albright, Elisha Hewitt, Simon Albright, John A. Freeland, William Greathouse, Isaac M. Criss, William W. Elsey, David Field, Jehu Cassidy and Andrew J. Douglass.

Company E, Fifteenth W. Va. Infantry went from Preston County, and participated in numerous battles. The regiment lost 285 men in 1864. Corporal Charles S. Fortney was wounded at Lynchburg while bearing the regimental colors: Officers - Captain, Cornelius Gandy and Washington M. Paul; lieutenants, Ashford E. Fortney, William F. Jackson; sergeants, Waithen and James Thomas Bryan, Cyrus W. Howard, Nicholas C. Howard, John N. Matlick and P. H. Heermans; corporals, Samuel P. Linton, Thomas McGee, James Flanagan, Charles S. Fortney, Washington Lantz, William C. Hawley and Thomas B. Martin. Privates - John W. Britton, John Boliner, Lycurgus Brown, John A. Bolyard, Jacob Boliner, John W. Bennett, John Crites, Henry Combs, Jonathan Dumire, Philip Goff, John Geldbaugh, Paul Grim, Lewis F. Gladwell, Clayton L. Gandy, John Hanaway, John W. Hamilton, George W. Huffman, John W. Howard, Frederick M. Holbritter, Melker M. Jeffreys, Francis Jenkins, Robert A. Knotts, Ahab Knotts, James H. Knotts, David Lantz, A. R. Lipscomb, Annias Lantz, Adam Lantz, William Loughridge, Isaac A. Matlick, Marion McKinney, Joseph F. Michael, James S. Nester, Christian Nine, William Nine, James Plum, William G. Plum, Harvey Pusel, John Runner, Sylvanus Ruby, Eli Reedy, John R. Sneedly, Thomas J. Shaw, James H. Stewart, Sr., James P. Sharps, Evan Stevens, John W. Stevenson, O. J. Trowbridge, Leonard Wiles, Jacob D. Weaver, Francis Whitehair, F. A. Waithen, B. F. Jenkins, Alpheus Simpson, Isaac Sandsberry, William B. Jackson, William F. Sigley, James A. Ford, C. F. Lewis, S. M. Martin, John Nine,

James H. Stewart, Jr., Monroe Jackson and James W. Mankins. Died—Officers—sergeant, David Gregg. Privates—D. H. Shaffer, Edward Moore, Frederick C. Bush, John Cunningham, George Runner, James L. Castle, Zacharias Ball and Lewis Runner.

The Seventeeth Regiment, W. Va. Volunteers, were mostly mustered in for one year, in August and September, 1864. It was stationed for some time at Bulltown, Braxton County. Company "F" was from Preston: Officers - Morris M. Snider; lieutenants, Thomas E. Davis, and Hosea Methenev: sergeants, George W. Chambers, Joseph A. Matlick, Daniel Albright, John F. Michaels and Henry M. Felton; corporals, Joseph Miller, Noah A. Titchenell, Benjamin F. Daring, Lewis W. Wolf, Jesse H. Stewart, George W. Miller, William H. Whetsel, John R. Turner. Musicians - Andrew J. Stotler and John M. Collins. Privates—Thomas J. Brown, George M. Bucklew, James K. P. Bucklew, John W. Batson, Jr., Jesse H. Binsgar, Lewis Bowman, John W. Butler, Franklin B. Blue, William C. Charlton, William B. Corbin, Eli Callis, Miner S. Clevinger, John Collins, John M. Dobbins, Josiah Edyburn, Matthew Edmond, Joseph M. Feathers, Richard M. Fast, William B. Gabbert, Greenbury Heilman, Henry Heilman, Washington Hartman, John W. Irons, William T. Kelley, James A. Kelley, James B. Kelly, John Kelley, William E. Kirk, A. W. Metheny, John P. Metheny, Samuel O. McDonald, William McDaniel, Henry McCulloh, Enos J. Myers, Joshua C. Ogden, William Omen, Silas Pettet, Samuel B. Pugh, Henry D. Paxton, Jacob Reckart, Nathan Rogers, George Rodeheaver, Nathaniel W. Rose, Henry A. Smith, William Shaw, James T. Smallwood, Andrew S. Sisler, Sandy M. Scott, Josiah Summers, John C. Stone, Jacob Summers, Andrew Shanks, Benjamin F. Talbott, Robert T. Turner, George Teets, William E. Titchnell, Abel Vanscov, Jonathan Whitehair, George W. Whitehair, Christian Wilhelm, Ashley Wilfawn, Alpheus Wheeler, Archibald Willard, Samuel Wolf, Eugene Walker, John Wensyel, John B. Wright, James P. Wright, Josephus Wilson, Isaac Yeager, Festus Yost, James E. Yost, John Yates, William Yeater, James Farrel, Samuel Gray, James Gray and George Henderson.

Of the Third Regiment West Virginia Cavalry, Company C was organized at Brandonville October 1, 1861. It was stationed at Clarksburg and New Creek for a time. "The history of the regiment is written on every page that records the conflicts and victories of the Middle Military Division." General George A. Custer, commanding the division, in his congratulatory order order of April 9, 1865, said, "You have never lost a gun—never lost a color—and have never been defeated."

Company C. Officers - Captains, William B. Shaw, Peter Tabler and Seymour B. Conger; lieutenants, John E. Bowers, Albert Teets, Joseph A. Benson and James S. Perry; sergeants, James W. Kneedler, John Falkenstine, Michael Ferrel, Sylvester Ridgway, Edmund Wagely, William Clendenning, Levi J. Welshaus, Edward N. Loy, William Pullin, David S. Green and James P. St. Clair; corporals, Levi F. Miller, Adam Wolf, James O. Ross, Alexander Horner, Ulysses Davis, William Deets, Benjamin F. Hatter, Franklin C. Spencer, Middleton Roby, W. E. Kines and William Prossman. Buglers - David Kiser, A. Porter and Joshua Barthlow. Privates—Thomas S. Welch, Eri Anderson, Benjamin Awman, James W. Anderson, John Allison, David Butt, George H. Burch, William Barthlow, Levi Bricker, William Butt, Thomas J. Butler, Alonzo H. Curry, Jesse Colbert, Clarkson Colbert, John A. Cross, Hiram Cochran, Charles C. Cochran, James B. Crowl, George W. Deen, James Deets, David Fitzpatrick, John Fravell, John T. Fizer, William A. Frushour, John W. Gardener, David S. Green, Jacob H. Hart, Joseph H. Hays, Edmund Horner, Robert Horner, Jacob Hart, Gilaspie Hickman, George Jenkins, Isaiah Kiser, John Kiser, Theodore Lamaster, John H.

Lamaster, William G. Lazzell, Isaac Miller, Enoch Morgan, Enos Myers, Alexander McKinney, Marshall Mercer, William C. Myers, William Myer, John W. Murphy, James W. Murphy, Samuel E. Murray, Edmund Morgan, Elijah Morgan, Robert Morgan, Samuel Myers, Jacob Myers, John W. Norington, Edgar C. Piles, George L. Price, James Ridenour, Charles Ridenour, Elijah Ramsburg, H. R. Stansberry, John Stafford, Andrew J. Shrout, John Smith, Lewis S. Stoneking, Thomas Stoker, H. W. Strawson, William J. Street, Balser Shaffer, Andrew J. Stotler, David Shaffer, Matthias B. Smith, Elisha Teets, Samuel Titchenell, James Taylor, Samuel H. Taylor, Ephraim Taylor, Moses Volgarmott, Charles W. Woodward, Thomas Wise, Benjamin K. Wister, Patrick P. Welch, Jerry Vanansdal, William Fleming, George Long, Elijah Reynolds, John W. Klyne, William Raey. Casual ties - Lieutenant John E. Huffman; corporals, Isaac J. Light, Philip Siler and Osborne H. Piles. Privates — John R. Dilly, Henry M. Slater, John W. Pitcher, James M. Mock, Ezra Yoho, Moses Johnson and Charles W. Pitcher.

Company B 4th W. Va. Cavalry. Officers — Captain, Rev. Jeremiah L. Simpson; lieutenant, Granville Brown; sergeants, Thomas N. Rogers, Thomas W. Shaw, Abram R. Shriver, Michael Bradshaw, Lewis G. Smith, William A. Hall, and Cornelius S. Howard; corporals, Ervin H. Fortney, Harmon Trickett, James M. Ashcraft, William A. McGinnis. William A. W. Zinn, William H. Zinn, Robert M. Butler and Andrew J. Sterling. Musician—S. F. Greenleaf. Privates - John B. Austin, Jacob H. Miller, Hiram M. Massie, John H. Binns, John C. Ball, Elias Bolyard, Thomas Brand, James E. Bosley, John W. Bonafield, David C. Brown, Harrison Conley, John G. Everly, Silas M. Fortney, Aquilla A. Fortney, Barton Fortney, William F. Fortney, Milford C. Gibson, F. M. Harrington, William J. Harrington, Elijah S. Huffman, Joseph Kelley, Samuel B. Kirk, Cyrus Linton, Zadock Lanham, Henry Lyons, James F. Menefee, George W. Metheney, Joseph M. Metheney, Joseph S. Matlick, William W. Mercer, Benjamin V. McMillen, Ami Orr, Samuel

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S. B. Renshaw, Mark M. Riley, Sylvanus Reppert, John Springer, Newton J. Scott, Henry A. Smith, Thomas S. Squires, Alexander Shaw, B. F. Shuttlesworth, James W. Smith William H. Smith, Coleman Trickett, Lemuel Turner, Fenton M. Trippett, Isaac Wilkins, John M. Walls, Samuel G. Walls, George H. Zinn, Elisha E. Zinn, William Henry Zinn, George P. Zinn, William H. Hagans (appointed Sergeant Major).

Company D. Officers — Captains, Andrew J. Squires and Dennis A. Letzinger; lieutenants, James W. Hollis, John Hinebaugh and George W. Artis; sergeants, Benjamin Huggins, Jácob Mays, John V. Snider, Eugenus Huggins, Philip E. Knotts and Robert T. Gordon; corporals, Robert Feltner, John Squires, Rawley Simpson, Lewis W. Halbritter, George W. Kisner, James F. Moore, Jasper Gandy, Peter Goff, Francis M. Huffman and William Butler. Albert Huggins, bugler. Privates - Eugenus F. Hall, S. R. Bowermaster, Alexander Bolyard, John W. Combs, Thomas Cassidy, Zeri Eliason, James F. M. Frazier, John Fromhart, George W. Gull, Amos Huggins, Henry Hilgardner, Charles M. Helms, Josiah Jackson, Lewis Knotts, John M. Miller, Andrew M. Miller, Randolph Phillips, Edgar B. Rogers, Ashbel F. Rogers, Martin Shahan, Rawley Shahan and Elisha Taylor. Recruits — William Bolyard, Lewis J. Bolyard, Urim Bolyard, James M. Bolyard, Joseph N. Crosby, William H. H. Elliott, Philip S. Gull, James M. Hamilton, Joseph Heermans, Samuel Hose, Frank B. McDermit, Benjamin F. Pell, David D. Riley, Samuel Snider, William H. Sidwell, Israel B. Squires, Benjamin Shay, Samuel D. Squires, Thomas M. Wilson, Lewis Triplett, Henry Fortney, Eugenus Marquess, Veterans — Arthur Bailey, Isaac Bolyard, Josiah Calvert, James Fitzwilliams, Jacob W. Fortney, Hiram M. Gough, David Henry, John Hebb, Furgison Jenkins, Jacob E. Kisner, John W. McGinnis, John Martin, Isaac Moore, Jacob Miller, John Myers, George Nightingale, John W. Pell, Francis Repair, George Robertson, James M. Simpson, George A. Stafford, Amos Wolf, Francis A. Warthen, Rino Fromhart, James S. Goff, John Heermans, James Hough, William Knulfer, Richard Pratt, Samuel Sanders, Thomas M. Summers, Henry F. Sembower and Harrison Zinn. Died — Joshua Bolyard, George A. Dancer, Burkett Fawcett, William Miller, Jehu Knotts, Philip M. Moore, Isaac Runner, William F. Squires and Elijah Summers.

The Third Regiment of W. Va. Volunteer Infantry was organized at Clarksburg, W. Va., in July, 1861, by Col. David T. Hewes. January 26, 1864, it was changed to the Sixth Cavalry. And April 1, 1864, a new company, L, was added, commanded by Captain Jacob S. Hyde. The regiment made a good record. It took a conspicuous part in General Averill's raid to Salem, Va. Companies C, D, H, and L were from Preston.

Company C. Officers - Captains, Dennis B. Jeffers and Isaiah Kirk; lieutenants, David E. McGinnis and E. M. H. Brown; sergeants, Isaac B. Cobun, Elisha B. Metheny, Sanford Watson, E. C. Ashburn and Samuel A. Dill; corporals, John N. White, William F. Menear, Jesse M. Johnson, Joseph B. McGinnis, John C. Graham, John P. Murdock, Francis J. Borgmann, Samuel E. Welch and George W. Duffield. Privates - Francis Fortney, Jacob C. Bishoff. John N. Cobun, Harrison C. Cobun, William A. Cobun, Charles Collins, Simon F. Childs, Michael Conner, Solomon Laner, Samuel J. Ervin, Jacob E. Ervin, Absalom Everly, Israel B. Field, Lucian A. Hartman, Solomon P. Hawley, George W. Helms, Linzey Huggins, Elias Kelley, John T. Knotts, David Liston, Asbury P. Moon, John Mooney, James I. Perrill, William D. Pasters, Marcellus N. Snider, Seth D. L. Stafford, John W. Stone, Edgar C. Stuck, John Taylor, J. W. B. Trowbridge and Henry H. Wilkins. Recruits — William H. Deavers, William M. Duncan, David H. Fortney, A. J. Kellison, C. Kellison, W. H. Right, J. F. Starcher and W. F. Young. Veterans - G. W. Cleis, J. H. Blaney, Granville H. Castle, W. W. Deavers, J. M. Gordon, Noah Gross, David L. Keefover, Philip H. Kidwell, Benjamin F. Menear, James Myers, Hiram Menear, John W.

Moon. John A. Perril, Cornelius Piles, John J. Smith, Isaac Teets, Goren O. White, Thomas E. White, George W. Hinzman, A. L. McKeever and John W. Weiford. *Died*—Captain Jacob G. Cobun; corporal Benjamin F. Field. Privates William H. Posten, Christian Albright, Newton Calvert, George Collins, Rawley Cassiday, George L. Knisell, William H. Matlick, Thomas McMannon and Thomas M. Trickett.

Company I of the Fourth was composed largely of Prestonians. The following is the roll of the company: Officers — Captain, Morris M. Snider; sergeants, Marcellus Albright and Isaac C. Whetsell: corporal, Joseph M. A. Kelley. Privates — Joseph C. Feather, William H. Bishoff, Samuel Constable, David S. Cobun, Leonard J. Everly, Joseph B. Feather, George W. Fraley, William H. Groves, John Gregg, Elisha A. Hartman, William H. H. Harner, Job Jaco, John L. G. Jackson, Perry Metheny, George W. Miller, Thomas Morris, Robert Moore, Anthony Reckart, Andrew J. Ringer, William H. H. Ringer, Marshall Silbaugh, Andrew S. Sisler, Gustavus Shaffer, William W. Titchenell, Adam Trembly, Hezekiah J. Walls and William H. Whetsell. Died — Hiram A. Golden.

Company H. Officers—Captains, Levi L. Bryte, H. C. Hagans, and C. E. Swearingen; lieutenants, William H. Kantner, and G. B. Hadden; sergeants, George Goff, Samuel Mansell, William H. Miller, James R. Brown, Solomon Yoke, Newton Potter and Andrew S. Kelley; corporals, James McC. Miller, Herman Pringy, William J. Frantz, T. H. Rodeheaver, James Channing, William H. Butler, William N. Fisher and James M. Chidester. Musicians—Thomas Rush and John Taylor. Privates—John Boyer, William T. Bryner, James D. Benson, Henry W. Boger, Ezra D. Benson, John W. Boger, William H. Cupp, Isaac Cupp, Isaac Collins, James M. Clingan, Andrew J. Dean, John H. Fearer, Burbridge Fraley, Preston Glover, James E. Gaskins, William A. Gilman, Hamilton L. Gillis, George F. Hoffman, Joseph Harbaugh, Josiah Hall, Francis M. Hix,

Ralph Hoff, James J. Hook, Francis A. Hoff, William H. Inks, Jackson Jeffreys, James Jobes, Thomas J. Johnson, Charles H. Kemp, John Klink, Frederick Lenhart, Henson S. Liston, Jacob H. Liston, Joseph R. Lint, Jacob Myers, Henry Myers, William H. Maust, Ami W. Miller, Hosea McC. Miller, William H. B. Miller, Frederick Myers, Joseph J. Miller, James Maust, William Maust, N. McCollough, Joseph Miller, Daniel Myers, William A. McClain, George W. Powell, Preston Ringer, Isaac J. Ringer, Daniel Smith, Robert R. Spiker, William H. Spiker, George Silbaugh, Preston Spahr, Alexander Thomas, Jacob Trisler, Peter Teets, Amos Tissue, Thomas H. Trader, Joel A. Thomas, William B. Thorpe, Job Thorpe, Elias Vansickle, William Woods, Charles Walls, Francis A. Walls, John F. Whipkey and William Wilson. Died - Captain, David Gibson; Corporal Alpheus C. Brown. Privates — John W. Darby, William H. Dean, Thomas J. Johnson, Edgar S. Street, Samuel Mosser, Joseph Strauser, James Skinner, William Teets and David Vansickle.

Company L. Officers - Captain, Jacob S. Hyde; lieutenants, Jehu F. Wotring and E. L. Parker; sergeants, George M. Michael, Richard B. Waddle, Henry H. Guseman, McGruder W. Selby, Josephus E. Crane, John J. Rodeheaver, J. C. Gandy and Edgar C. Wilson; corporals, A. W. Conner, Jacob J. Guseman, Marcellus Albright, James W. Brumage, William S. Cobun, Daniel H. Younken, James R. Conaway and John F. McGrew. Bugler - G. H. Rode. heaver. Privates - Henry Albright, James M. Ashcraft, Winser Austin, John Benson, Aaron Barker, Francis M. Barnes, George Cayton, Jacob J. Cayton, Harrison Curry, Robert Conn, William H. Deavers, Alpheus Devall, Leonard Everly, Jesse J. Foglesong, D. H. Frankhouser, Silas W. Fleming, David W. Fraker, William H. Glover, John W. Groves, Samuel M. Gleeson, Jeremiah Holliday, William Harader, Andrew J. Hiles, W. D. Hewitt, J. Hewitt, S. J. Hileman, Milton Kemp, Lewis Kuh, Moses B. Lamb, Jonathan L. Moore, Jacob S. Matlick, William Maust, Benjamin McKinney, David Matthews, James A. Mayfield, William Neff, John Nay, John Powell, William B. Rodeheaver, Allen A. Rogers, A. J. Ringer, John W. Rogers, Solomon W. Shrout, William Syhock, Perry P. Stewart, John Savage, Nelson Savage, Richard Savage, Allen Stevens, Alpheus F. Shaffer, David Shaffer, David H. Shaffer, Cyrus Shaffer, John E. Stuck, John J. Spiker, James A. Thomas, W. G. Thomas, William W. Titchenell, Orvil Travis, Amos Wilt, David S. Wilt, Samuel W. Wotring, Moses B. Wotring, George W. Wagner, Albert S. Wells, Thomas F. Wilson, Josiah F. Wilson, Urias Wolf and William Yeast. *Died*—Josiah F. Satterfield and Henry T. Spiker.

Company H 3d Md. Vol. Infantry was organized at Bruceton, March 29, 1862. Left there March 31, 1862, joined the regiment at Springfield, W. Va., April 2, 1862. Officers — Captain, W. A. Falkenstine; lieutenants, William H. Jenkins and Conrad Rayman; sergeants, Martin Gibson, James K. Martin, King J. Hanna, Azarael Cale and J. W. Hanna; corporals, George Laub, Samuel Maust, W. H. H. Seese, A. C. Titchenell, George W. Taylor, Jasper Wolfe and Solomon Walls. Musicians—John F. Falkenstine and Lewis F. Falkenstine. Privates — J. W. Bowman, Jesse Beerbower (promoted to ass't reg'l surgeon), R. C. Crooks, John Cupp, Isaac Cassidy, John Collins, William Cale, L. P. Everly, Peter Everly, Martin Frankhouser, Thomas H. Fearer, — Fields, Samuel E. Groves, —— Greathouse, Levi J. Hunt, Caleb B. Hunt, Henry Engle, Hezekiah Joseph, Ami Jenkins, Nicholas Lee, S. B. Lee, Adam Maust, J. C. McMullen, Perry McNair, John Myers, Samuel Nedrow, H. C. Ringer, Lewis Smith, William A. Shaffer, Peter Titchenell, John Titchenell, Joseph Taylor, Smith Wheeler, Henry Wolfe and F. M. Walls. Died-Lieutenant Frederick Pringey, Privates - Samuel P. Boger, Cyrus C. Bryte, H. L. Benson, T. Christopher, William J. King, Albert King, Jonathan Laub, Abraham Mathews, Isaac Maust, John Maust, Abraham Maust, George W. Myers and Peter Tuttle.

SOLDIERS IN THE REGULAR ARMY.

Edward Allison Godwin, son of Captain Joseph M. Godwin, of Kingwood, enlisted on the 13th of February, 1865, in Company A, First W. Va. Cavalry, and served with that regiment until July 8, 1865, when the regiment was mustered out of the service. On the 17th of October, 1865, he was appointed a cadet at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point from the second Congressional District of W. Va., by the Honorable George R. Latham, then member of Congress from that district, and graduated on the 15th of June 1870, being promoted to second lieutenant and assigned to the Eighth U. S. Cavalry. He joined his regiment in New Mexico and served with it there until 1875, when he was ordered to Texas, in which State he has served ever since, having been promoted to first lieutenant in 1876. At the time of his enlistment he lacked three months of being fifteen years old, and was twenty years and one month old at the time of his graduation from the military academy. His standing in class was creditable, being 31 in a class of 58. He is now stationed at Camp Del Rio, Kinney County, Texas.

Edward Groscup, son of Henry Groscup, of Cranberry, enlisted in the regular army in the spring of 1881, and is now on duty in Colorado.

IN THE NAVAL SERVICE.

Lieutenant Robert Matthew Gay Brown was born in Preston County, Virginia, now West Virginia. He was appointed from that State as a cadet to the Naval Academy by his uncle, the Hon. William G. Brown. He entered the naval service in July, 1864, and graduated in June, 1868, being third in a class of eighty. He served as a midshipman on the North Pacific Station on board the Saranac, Lackawanna and Pensacola. In 1869, he was promoted to ensign, and to master in 1870; and in April of the same year, sailed from New York on the Alaska for China Station. made a three years' cruise in that vessel, and took part in the Corean expedition, commanding the sailors landed as infantry from the Alaska. He was in the final charge of Fort McKee, and was mentioned in the official reports of the action as among those first in the fort. He was ordered as second lieutenant to the New Hampshire at Norfolk, in October, 1873, and served there until June, 1874, when he was ordered to the Torpedo School at Newport. "In October of the same year he was ordered as first lieutenant of the Despatch, and ordered to the Swatara in June, 1875, and served on West India Station until March, 1877, when ordered to the Naval Academy as instructor of navigation and surveying. He was ordered to the command of the Torpedo Ram Alarm, June 11, 1878. By personal exertions he obtained an appropriation from Congress of \$20,000 to fit the Mallory steering and driving propeller to the Alarm; and was ordered by the Navy Department to carry on an extensive series of trials and experiments to determine the value of the Mallory system for propelling and steering vessels " [The above is an extract from a Naval work].

These trials were brought to a satisfactory conclusion in August, 1881. For his services on the vessel, he received the thanks of the Admiral of the Navy in an official letter. Upon the conclusion of the trials of the *Alarm*, he was or-

dered to the Flagship *Lancaster*, about to sail for the European Station. He was commissioned a lieutenant April 3, 1872.

Lieutenant Brown published a series of articles in the United Service Magazine of Philadelphia, in which he maintained that there were two governing forces in nature; viz., attraction and repulsion, and that the resultant of these forces is what is commonly known as gravity. His articles attracted considerable attention, and were favorably criticized. He has also written, with marked ability, a great deal on topics connected with the Naval Service.

THE MILITIA.

The first militia organization in the county was the 104th Regiment, commanded by Colonel John Fairfax for many years, succeeded by his son, the late Buckner Fairfax, who held command of the regiment until it became too large and was divided into three regiments, the 104th at Brandon-ville, 148th at Kingwood, and the 173d at Evansville.

The 104th was commanded by Colonels John Rodeheaver, John D. Rigg, James G. Crawford. L. H. Jenkins was Lieutenant-Colonel, and Samuel Fike Major at the time the militia went down.

The 148th was commanded by Buckner Fairfax until his election by the Virginia Legislature as Brigadier-General, when J. A. F. Martin was elected Colonel, and Eugene T. Brandon Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1851, from an old report, we find the following of this regiment: John A. F. Martin, Commandant, William Connelly, Adjutant. Captains of Infantry companies — Samuel W. Snyder, William F. Pell, Abraham Elliott, John W. Francisco and William M. Johnson. Collin B. Trowbridge, captain of a cavalry company; Lemuel B. Menear, captain of an artillery company; James H. Carroll, captain of a light infantry company; Surgeon, C. F. M. Kidwell; Sergeant-Major, William Squires, and James C. McGrew, Quartermaster. The regiment consisted of 519 men.

The 173d Regiment was commanded for a time by Colonel Stephen B. Wheeler. Charles Hooton and Thomas L. Simpson each held the office of Lieutenant-Colonel for a while. The date of the organization of the regiment is lost. It was, however, reorganized in 1856, and the Colonels, Lieutenant-Colonels and Majors were elected by the commissioned officers of the several companies. R. W. Monroe was Lieutenant-Colonel and Colonel; U. N. Orr, Major and Lieuten-

ant-Colonel; Jacob Stemple, Major; Alfred Moore ranked as Colonel; John W. Bishoff, Lieutenant-Colonel; Washington Paul, Adjutant, and Charles Hooton, Clerk. Peter Zinn, Robert W. Monroe, John Bishoff and William H. Moore were Captains. The regiment consisted of eight companies.

These regiments, the 104th, 148th and 173d, formed a part of the 10th Brigade (commanded by General Buckner Fairfax), 3d Division, Virginia Militia.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUDICIAL HISTORY.

COURTS—JUDGES—CLERKS—PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS—THE ROLL $\hspace{1.5cm} \text{OF} \hspace{0.3cm} \text{THE} \hspace{0.3cm} \text{BAR.}$

From the creation of the county in 1818 to the change of the state constitution in 1831, there was a superior court over which Daniel Smith, of Harrisburg, presided as Judge. He was a fine-looking man, about six feet high, round fullfaced, black hair, and pleasant countenance. The first term of this court was held on the first Monday after the fourth Monday in April, 1818, in the old red court-house, and Preston County was in the eleventh circuit. Judge Smith appointed James McGee, prosecutor, and Eugenus M. Wilson, clerk, for that term. At the next term Eugenus M. Wilson was appointed prosecutor, and Charles Byrne, clerk. Smith presided until 1831, when the constitution was amended the second time and Preston County was embraced in the 20th circuit, 10th judicial district. The superior court was then designated circuit superior court of law and chancery, and Joseph L. Fry of Wheeling became judge of the 20th circuit, 10th judicial district, and presided till 1847 or '48. Charles Byrne was clerk and served until his death, in 1843, when he was succeeded by his son, John P. Byrne, who served until 1852, assisted by Smith Crane.

The amended constitution of 1851 now came into effect, and Preston County was included in the 21st judicial circuit of Virginia in connection with Taylor, Marion, Harrison,

Barbour, Upshur and Randolph. Judge George H. Lee succeeded Judge Fry, and sat on the bench till 1852.

In May, 1852, Gideon D. Camden was elected judge of this district for a term of 8 years, by a majority of about 5000. John P. Byrne ran for clerk of the circuit court at the same time and was defeated by one vote, by James H. Carroll, who served for eleven years, having been reelected in 1858.

In 1860, Judge Camden was re-elected for a like term of eight years by the same majority. The war coming on, Judge Camden held no courts after the Spring of 1861. Judge Camden has said that his intercourse and connection with the people of Preston County had always been very pleasant, and that he regarded Preston as among the most noble counties of the State possessing many elements of wealth, that when once fully developed the county will rank among the most desirable in the State.

Judge William H. Harrison, of Clarksburg, presided from 1861 until the election of John A. Dille on the fourth Thursday of May, 1863. During the same time James A. Brown was prosecuting attorney.

In 1863, the State of West Virginia was admitted into the Union, and Preston, with Monongalia, Taylor and Tucker counties constituted its 4th judicial circuit. John A. Dille was elected without opposition judge of the circuit for a term of six years, to commence on July 2, 1863, and Smith Crane, clerk, and James Power Smith, prosecuting attorney. He was re-elected in 1865, the new constitution of 1863 having reduced the term of office from four to two years. Mr. Smith was succeeded by Col. Charles Hooton, who held the position until the 1st of January, 1871, when he was succeeded by Col. Asbury C. Baker, who held the position until January 1, 1877, when he was succeeded by William Gordon Worley.

In 1869, Judge Dille was re-elected to preside over the said 4th circuit by a large majority, and served until 1873, when the amended constitution of 1872 provided for the

re-arrangement of the circuits, and he declined to again be a candidate.

Judge Dille was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, on the 19th of July, 1821, and was educated at Washington College, graduating in the year 1843. He came to Preston County the same year and read law with the Hon. William G. Brown, and was his law-partner from 1845 to 1849, and from 1849 to 1851 was associated in the practice of law with M. B. Hagans, now Judge Hagans of Cincinnati. He was a member of the constitutional convention in 1863 from Preston, and at this time is engaged in the practice of law at Morgantown.

In 1866, Smith Crane was re-elected clerk.

In 1872, John Brannon was elected by a large majority judge of the 6th judical circuit, composed of the counties of Preston, Tucker, Randolph, Barbour, Webster, Upshur, Gilmer and Lewis, for a term of eight years, and remained in office till the expiration of his term. He declined then to be a candidate under the new judicial system.

Judge Brannon is a native of Winchester, Virginia, where he was born on the 19th of October, 1822. His paternal and maternal ancestors fought in the Revolutionary War for the independence of America. His grandfather Brannon was a native of Ireland, and married a Miss Baldwin of the celebrated family of that name, of Pennsylvania, noted for talent and honorable character. His father was a thrifty farmer of the Valley of Virginia. Judge Brannon received a splendid academic education, and has always been a close student. He obtained license to practice law in 1847, and located at Weston, Lewis County. He was a member of the house of delegates of Virginia from 1853 to 1857, and of the senate of Virginia from 1857 to 1865, a period in the history of that body marked for the distinguished talent of its members. The Judge at the present time is engaged in the practice of law.

In 1872, Smith Crane was again re-elected clerk, and A. C. Baker, prosecuting attorney.

In 1876, William G. Worley was elected prosecuting attorney. In the fall of 1878, Smith Crane was again re-elected clerk of the circuit court. In the fall of 1880, Neil J. Fortney was elected prosecuting attorney.

In 1880, Preston County was placed in the third judicial circuit, comprising the counties of Preston, Barbour, Tucker, Randolph and Taylor, of which circuit William T. Ice was elected judge, October 12, 1880, and now presides.

Judge Ice was born in Marion County, Virginia, on the 9th of March, 1841. He passed his boyhood on a farm, and received his education in the common schools of his native county. He read law with Fontaine Smith, Esq., of Fairmont, came to the bar in 1864, and, locating in Barbour County the same year, was elected prosecuting attorney. He was re-elected to that office in 1866 and 1870. In 1874, he represented the 3d delegate district—Barbour, Harrison and Taylor—in the legislature. On the 12th of October, 1880, he was elected Judge of the said 3d judicial circuit.

County Courts.—For the origin of these courts we have to go back to the year 1623-4, when "courts were directed to be kept once a month in the corporations of Charles City and Elizabeth City," Virginia. By order of the governor and council made March 7, 1628-9, and an act of 1631-2, commissioners, styled "commissioners of the county courts," were appointed to hold monthly courts in some remote plantations. In 1652, they were elected by the house of burgesses; and in the next year, the governor and council were clothed with authority to appoint commissioners in each county upon the recommendation of the several county courts. By act of 1661-2, the number of commissioners in each county was restrained to eight, and they were called justices of the peace; the act reciting that "the great number of commissioners in each county hath rendered the place contemptible and raised factions among themselves, rather than preserved the peace of the people." Though the number was reduced to eight, four might constitute a court. The constitution of 1776 gave authority to the governor, with the advice of the privy council, to appoint justices of the peace for the counties. In cases of vacancy, or of "a necessity of increasing the number thereafter," the persons appointed were to be recommended by the respective county courts. By reference to the code of 1803, it will be learned that the justices as a court were invested with the authority to appoint constables; and this authority remained with the county court until the adoption of the constitution of 1851, since which time constables, as well as justices, have been elected by the people.

The act providing for the formation of Preston County required the first county court of quarter sessions therefor to be held on the first Monday of March, 1818, which, however, did not meet till some time in April of that year. The justices composing it so far as can be ascertained were John Fairfax, Frederick Harsh, Hugh Evans, Nathan Metheny, Joseph Matthews, Nathan Ashby, William Sigler, Benjamin Shaw and Felix Scott. This court convened at the house of William Price in Kingwood. This, we are reliably informed, was the upper east room of what is known as the Herndon Hotel, opposite the "Stone House," on Main Street, and is still standing.

The second court was held in the old red court-house, and Colonel John Fairfax presided. The county court met every month; eight of these meetings were called monthly courts, and the other four quarterly sessions.

Charles Byrne, who was appointed the first clerk, continued to hold the position until 1843, as before stated, when, dying, he was succeeded by his son, John P. Byrne, who was appointed at the June term, 1843, re-appointed in June, 1850, and held the position until July 1, 1852, when he was succeeded by Snith Crane. Mr. Crane was re-elected in 1858, and remained in office until July 2, 1863.

Eugenus M. Wilson (referred to in the preceding part of this chapter) was appointed the first prosecuting attorney, and continued in office in this court until 1823, when he was succeeded by William G. Brown, who occupied the position until he was elected to the legislature in 1832, when he was succeeded by Henry Ensminger. The latter named gentleman held the position about two years when he was succeeded by Gustavus Cresap, who held the position until 1861 when he resigned (as before stated). From the foregoing it will be seen that from July 1, 1852, up to the year 1861, Mr. Cresap was prosecuting attorney for both courts, as have been his successors in office since. Various members were from time to time admitted to the county or justices court, but the records being burned it is impossible to give their names. The county court was composed of 32 justices. This court met and elected John S. Murdock Presiding Justice. This court of 1852 was complimented as a nice looking body of men. We give below as far as an accurate search can find the names of this body of men.

1st District — Harrison Hagans, William McKee, Henry Smith and James Hill.

2d District — Joseph N. Miller, David Graham, Samuel Deberry and Jacob F. Martin.

3d District—Buckner Fairfax, Abram Jeffers, David O. White and William T. Kelley.

4th District — William H. Grimes, John A. Wotring, John D. Stemple and —— Shaffer.

5th District — Peter M. Hartley, David C. Miles, Isaiah Kirk and Barton Hawley.

6th District — John S. Murdock (president), Israel Baldwin, Hezekiah Pell and Elisha M. Hagans.

7th District — John Howard, David H. Fortney, George D. Zinn and William J. Kelley.

8th District — John J. Hamilton, Job Jaco, Joseph G. Baker and Moses Royse.

Smith Crane was elected clerk, and served from July 1, 1852, to July 2, 1863.

In 1863, the county court was abolished, and a county board of supervisors substituted in its place, consisting of eight members, one from each township. The board annually elected one of their number to serve as president, and

also appointed a clerk. John J. Brown was the first clerk of the board. The other clerks of the board were, respectively, William Sigler, Henry Startzman and Alfred T. Holt.

Mr. Sigler was elected the first recorder in the spring of 1863, and served until November 13, 1864, when, dying, Smith Crane took charge of the office in connection with his own, and discharged its duties for a month or so, until Henry Startzman was elected to fill the vacancy.

The names of the members of the board of supervisors from 1864 to 1869 can not now be given, as the records containing them were destroyed in the burning of the courthouse.

Board of supervisors in 1869: Charles M. Bishop (president), of Reno Township; William B. Zinn, Valley; Reason A. Pell, Lyon; John Harader, Grant; John D. Rigg, Pleasant; Edmund Messenger, Jr., Portland; John W. Bishoff, Union; Joab G. Conner, Kingwood. John W. Bishoff's resignation was accepted March 12, 1869, and William H. Grimes was appointed according to law (by Justices James H. Shafer and William Wheeler) to fill the vacancy.

Board of surpervisors in 1870 (elected fourth Thursday of October, 1869): Reno, Job Jaco; Portland, Edmund Messenger, Jr.; Pleasant, Abraham Liston; Lyon, Reason A. Pell; Grant, William McKee (president); Kingwood, James Gibson; Valley, Isaiah Kirk; Union, William L. Fansler.

Board of 1871 (elected fourth Thursday in October, 1870): Charles Kantner, Grant; Herbert Otto, Pleasant; William T. Kelley, Portland; William H. Grimes, Union; Joseph G. Baker, Reno; Reason A. Pell, Lyon; Isaiah Kirk, Valley; James Gibson, Kingwood.

Board of 1872 (elected 4th Thursday of October, 1871): James W. Brown (president), Kingwood; W. H. Grimes, Union; Joseph G. Baker, Reno; David Graham, Valley; John J. Jenkins, Pleasant; John C. Forman, Grant; John C. Howell, Lyon; Buckner Fairfax, Portland.

On the first of January, 1873, the county board of supervisors was by the provision of the amended constitution of

1872, abolished, and the old county court re-established. Captain Joseph M. Godwin was on the 22d of August, 1872, elected president of the said court, and Henry Startzman clerk. Captain Godwin was succeeded in 1876 by Joseph M. Shaw, who held the position until the fall of 1880, when, by an amendment of the 8th article of the constitution, the county court was again abolished. Henry Startzman served as clerk of the county court until April 2, 1876, when he died, and Smith Crane took charge of the office in connection with his own, and transacted the business thereof until October 16, 1876, when he was succeeded by J. Ami Martin, who was elected to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Startzman. In the fall of 1878, Mr. Martin was elected for a full term of six years.

When the first court for Preston met, all the attorneys appearing before it were from Morgantown; among them were William G. Payne, James McGee and Thomas Wilson. The first name upon the roll of the bar of Preston County was that of William G. Brown, who was admitted in the year 1822. Guy R. C. Allen from Morgantown, afterwards prosecuting attorney for the circuit court, was the next, who was admitted in 1823. Thomas Brown, a brother of the Hon. William G. Brown, was admitted in 1824. Henry Ensminger was admitted about the year 1828, having read law with the Hon. William G. Brown. In 1828, Samuel Price was admitted to the bar. He was born in Fauquier County, Virginia, in 1806. He served several terms in the Virginia general assemby after leaving Preston County, and was a member of the constitutional conventions of 1850 and 1861. He was elected lieutenant-governor of Virginia in 1863, and was president of the constitutional convention of West Virginia in 1872. Upon the death of United States Senator Allen T Carperton, he was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Gustavus Cresap was admitted in September, 1832. He was born in Alleghany County, Maryland, February 9, 1806. He served as prosecuting attorney before the county court

for about 27 years, and a part of the time was prosecuting attorney in the circuit court.

James Hawley Carroll was admitted to the bar in 1845. Mr. Carroll was born in Preston County, September 2, 1820. In the fall of 1841, he received an appointment from the Government at the Sac and Fox Indian agency and spent the winter in Iowa. He taught school, was appointed postmaster at Kingwood in 1843, and in 1849 was appointed clerk in the postoffice at Wheeling under George W. Clutter, postmaster. He was elected clerk of the circuit court in 1852, and was retained in that office till 1863, when he resumed the practice of law. In 1846, he raised a company for the Mexican War, but the State's quota was full, and the company's services were not required.

John J. Brown's admission to the bar dates from 1849.

Edward C. Bunker was admitted in 1850.

Col. Charles Hooton was admitted to the bar in 1852.

Robert E. Cowan was admitted in 1853. He went south in 1861, and is now a judge in Kansas City, Missouri.

Charles J. P. Cresap was admitted in 1857.

James Alexander Brown, son of Thomas Brown, was born June 11,1836, in the town of Kingwood. He was educated at Washington College Pennsylvania, and at the University of Virginia. He read law with his father and the Hon. John A. Dille, and was admitted in 1859. He was prosecuting attorney from 1861 to 1863, and was the Republican candidate for judge in 1880 in the 3d judicial district.

James Power Smith was admitted to the bar about 1863. He was presecuting attorney, superintendent of the free schools, and was a gentleman of fine education. He removed to Tennessee in 1868, where (so far as known) he has been engaged in his favorite employment of teaching in some of the colleges of that State.

Col. Asbury C. Baker was admitted in 1869, and filled the office of prosecuting attorney for two successive terms, and was county superintendent of free schools for one term.

H. C. Showalter was admitted about the same time.

Col. Robert William Monroe was born February 13, 1834. In Hampshire County. He taught twenty-one terms of school. "studied law with Blackstone," and was admitted to the bar in 1872.

William Gordon Worley was born August 1, 1846, in Greene County, Penna., graduated at Waynesburg College in 1872, taught school, read law with Berkshire and Sturgiss, of Morgantown, and was admitted to the bar of Preston County September 7, 1874, and was elected prosecuting attorney in 1876.

John Barton Payne was admitted to the bar in Taylor County, September 1, 1876.

John Homer Holt was born in Glenville, Gilmer County, but coming to Preston with his parents at an early age, was raised here. He taught school, and was admitted to the bar in September, 1877. He was elected to the legislature in 1878, and removed to Grafton in February, 1881, where he now practices his profession.

Joseph H. Hawthorne and Charles E. Brown were admitted in September, 1878.

Gustavus J. Cresap was born September 13, 1850, read law with his father, Gustavus Cresap, Esq., and was admitted in 1878.

William G. Brown, Jr., was admitted in July, 1879.

Henry Clay Hyde was admitted to the bar in October, 1879. He was born at Cranesville, January 23, 1855, and is the eldest son of the late Captain Jacob S. Hyde, who died in March, 1865, a few days after being released from Libby Prison. His mother is a daughter of the late John Crane, of the early and prominent settlers of the county. Mr. Hyde left the field of journalism for the practice of the law, and is now located in that profession at Keyser.

Neil J. Fortney was admitted to the bar in the spring of 1880.

Isaac Cox Ralphsnyder was born in Monongalia County, graduated at the Fairmont Normal School, followed teaching, and was admitted to practice law October 8, 1880.

A. W. Frederick was admitted October 8, 1880.

Patrick Joseph Crogan was born in Lyon District, June 17, 1856. He taught school, read law, and was admitted in April, 1881.

The Hon. Joseph T. Hoke was born in Berkeley County, in 1835, graduated at Hillsdale College, and at Michigan Law School in 1864. He was judge of the 5th judicial circuit from 1869 to 1873. He located in Preston in the fall of 1881.

Note. — In our reference in the first part of this chapter to the appointment of Eugenus M. Wilson, as prosecuting attorney of the superior court, we have to state a fact that we have since learned, viz., that this Mr. Wilson continued to hold the position until about 1831 or 1832, when he was succeeded by Guy R. C. Allen, of Morgantown, who held the position until July 1, 1852. Gustavus Cresap was elected to the position on the 4th Thursday of May, 1852, to succeed Mr. Allen, and was re-elected in 1856 and 1860. But the war coming on Mr. Cresap resigned in 1861, and was succeeded by James Alexander Brown.



THOMAS BROWN.



THOMAS BROWN.

Thomas Brown, son of James and Rachel Brown, was born on Christmas, 1802. Of Mr. Brown's ancestry nothing need be said here, as that subject was fully treated in the biography of his brother, the Hon. William G. Brown.

Thomas Brown received the advantages of a classical education, attending the classical school at Morgantown, taught by the celebrated Rev. Dr. Ashbel Fairchild, and was said to be the best Latin scholar in the county at that time. Upon leaving school, he turned his attention to the study of the law, reading with his brother, William G. Brown, and was admitted to the bar in September, 1824. He soon built up an extensive practice at home, and practiced beside in the courts of Barbour, Tucker and Randolph.

Mr. Brown was a prominent man in Preston, and was always alive to, and deeply interested in, every enterprise for the advancement of his county. He was one of the original incorporators of the great Northwestern Turnpike. He married Miss Ellen S., daughter of Alexander Smith, of Fort Pendleton. He died November 13, 1867, leaving nine children: Linnie S., wife of Judge Dille; Delia J., wife of W. P. Totten, Esq., of Oakland, Md.; James A., an attorney of the Kingwood bar; General George W., now a resident of Grafton and a quartermaster-general during the Rebellion; Thomas P. R., prosecuting attorney at Phillipi; John Hoye, for a long time engaged in the mercantile business in Kingwood; Lieutenant R. M. G., now in command of the United States Steamer Alarm on the coasts of Europe; Charles Edgar, an attorney at-law in the city of Cincinnati; and Mary E., wife of Joseph Moreland, Esq., a lawyer of Morgantown.

Mr. Brown bore the reputation of being one of the best and safest chancery lawyers of his day. Politically, he was a Democrat of the Andrew Jackson school. In religious belief he was a Presbyterian, and was an exemplary elder in that church.

The engraving does not do justice to Mr. Brown's personal appearance, the original from which it was made being taken when he was in very ill health. His familiar face was long missed at the bar of which he was a leading and one of the oldest members. He was no office holder, never aspiring to or holding an office during his life.

Mr. Brown sank to rest after seeing his well-loved county attain a front rank in the new State of West Virginia by the development and consummation of many enterprises, in every one of which he had taken a deep interest from its origin to completion.



SMITH CRANE.



SMITH CRANE.

Smith Crane, the eldest son of John and Nancy Crane, was born on the "old Crane farm," near Muddy Creek, in this county, on February 28, 1821.

Inasmuch as there has been but a mere reference made to the Crane family, a more extended notice in this connection is deemed proper. For some time past there has existed an organization known as "The Crane Genealogical Association" having an executive committee, of which Ellery B. Crane, of Worcester, Massachusetts, is the secretary. The committee, on the 5th of October, 1881. held one of its meetings in New York City. We learn from the secretary that the object of this association is to collect the family genealogy, and, if possible, to obtain (with a view of publishing) a satisfactory record of all the Cranes in America; also, that in 1666, among the first settlers of Elizabethtown, New Jersey, was Stephen Crane, believed to have been originally from England, who was the father of Samuel, John, Stephen, Jonathan, Abner, Joseph, Moses, Joanna, Anna, Ruth and Elizabeth Crane. Stephen, Jonathan, Abner and Moses all went to Ohio, and some of them from there to Indiana, where their numerous descendants now reside.

Samuel (the grandfather of Smith Crane) married Jane Bonnell, and moved to this county about 1790, and settled on the "old Crane, farm" before mentioned, having also lived at the mill property built and owned by him on Muddy Creek, where the "Ringer Mill" now stands, and where he died, December, 1821. Their children were Jonathan, Smith, Samuel, Joseph, John, Jacob, Calvin and Elizabeth. The widow moved in 1831, to her only daughter's, Elizabeth's (then wife of Isaac Romine,) in Indiana, where she died, March 21, 1848, at the ripe age of almost 85 years. Calvin is the only survivor of this branch of the family, and is an old man, having been born August 4, 1805. The most of the other members went West, and died there. Jacob died on the "old Crane farm," October 1, 1859.

John, the father of the subject of this sketch, married Nancy Dunham (March 16, 1820), whose parents had emigrated from Elizabethtown, before mentioned. John, after whom the town of Cranesville in this county is named, died peacefully, while absent with cattle and horses, in Harford County, Md., November 15, 1858, in his 59th year. His widow fell asleep in Jesus, July 28, 1878, aged nearly 80 years; both having united with the Baptist Church in the summer of 1832. Their family consisted of eleven children, nine, of whom are living, Smith being the oldest.

He received a common English education in the country schools of the day, the only one having any special merit (and the last he attended) being that taught by the now sainted Rev. Joseph Uncles, in 1838–9, in the town of Brandonville in this county. It was there, while attending school, in the early part of the year 1839, that he first "turned his feet unto the testimonies of the Lord," was converted and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Having a fondness for penmanship and the keeping of public records, he was hired by his father to John P. Byrne, Esq., who was then clerk of both courts, and on the 1st day of May, 1844, came to Kingwood, where he pursued diligently the office of a deputy clerk for three successive years. On November 16, 1847, he married Mary Catharine Morris, the oldest sister to Mrs. Charles M. Bishop and daughter of Reuben Morris, Esq.

Mr. Crane has only one representative of his name, a son, John Morris Crane, who was born September 22, 1853, and who, with a fair education, is now his father's deputy and a valassistant in his office. Mr. Crane was also engaged as the deputy of Mr. Byrne from the 14th of October, 1850, to the 1st of July, 1852. When (pursuant to a previous election) he assumed the duties of clerk of the county court of this county, a position which he filled with acceptance until July 1, 1863, when he became clerk of the circuit court, and has ever since held the position. He informs us that when he commenced his official duties in July 1, 1852, it was with

the full determination (that he still thinks commendable) to aim at being the best clerk in the State—certainly, a most commendable purpose; and we think it but just to say that he has achieved his ambition, for it is the judgment of those who are competent to give opinion, that Mr. Crane is the most efficient court clerk in the State. Such an officer as Mr. Crane is, is always of inestimable value to the people whom he serves.

Mr. Crane is a most zealous and most consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has been a class-leader since December, 1844. He is exceedingly liberal in his gifts to all benevolent purposes. He has great love and reverence for the Bible, which he has read through once, and the Psalms and the New Testament twice, every year since the fall of 1844. In this year he composed a couple of verses which he keeps copied on the fly-leaf of his Bible, and which seem such an appropriate closing of this sketch, that we have obtained his consent to insert them here;

"I take the Bible for my guide While traveling to the grave: It points me to the Saviour's side, Who died my soul to save.

"With it I'll never, never part,
While here on earth I stay:
Its sacred truths shall guide my heart,
To realms of endless day,"

CHAPTER XIV.

RELIGIOUS HISTORY.

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS — CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS — SUNDAY—
SCHOOLS — MISSIONARIES: HOLMES AND M'GREW.

The first attempted settlement of the county was by the Eckards, who were Dunkards in religious belief. Of the first actual settlers' religious belief we hale no account.

Evangelical Lutheran Church.—The Rev. John Stough, in 1787 came out to Mount Carmel with his own and four other families, and founded Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church sometime between 1792 and 1796. It was the first church built in the county. The church was supplied by Lutheran and German Reformed ministers, as the congregation was composed of both denominations. About 50 years ago, Dr. Philip Mockenhouse and the Rev. Mr. Nicksdorf organized the Lutheran Church in Portland, Pleasant and Grant districts, where to-day six churches exist and constitute the Brandonville charge.

The Friends.—About 1786, contemporary with the settling of the Lutherans, we find the Willits, Formans and other Quaker families in the vicinity of where Brandonville now is. They worshiped in an old house that stood on land now owned by David Frankhouser. Some years afterward, and between 1796 and 1812, a church was built about one mile and a quarter east from Brandonville, and was known as the Quaker Church. It was the second church built in the county. In that old Friends' meeting-house the followers of George Fox and his religion of peace gathered for over

25 years to speak words of peace or keep more peaceful silence, but each succeeding year witnessed their numbers decreasing. The old brothers and sisters put off their plain garb and were clothed with immortality, while the young members went to the "world's people." The meeting-house is torn down and gone, and hardly a follower of the Friends' belief remains in the county.

The Methodist. — About the year 1798, we find traces of the adherents of this church in the county, and in the year 1815 a class was existing at Kingwood, having been formed some time previous. And in this year was erected a log meeting-house near Kingwood, the third church built in the county. The church rapidly increased in numbers from that time until the present, when its classes exist and church edifices stand in all parts of the county. The Rev. George Hagans was one of the fathers of the church, and the celebrated Henry Clay Dean of political fame at one time was a minister of the church and preached in Preston County. The early fathers of the church were gathered to their rest, and a long list of estimable men emulous of their many virtues succeeded to their places, and in their turn gave way to the many present leaders in the church. In 1879, this sect built a church in Kingwood that will compare favorably with any other church edifice in the State.

The churches in Preston were in the Pittsburgh Conference till 1849, when the West Virginia Conference was formed. The churches of Preston are in 8 circuits—2 in the Morgantown, and 6 in the Oakland District. Under Presiding Elder D. H. K. Dix of Morgantown District, Kingwood Circuit has for pastor A. Hall; and Masontown, has G. W. Parriott. Under Presiding Elder B. Ison of Oakland District, are the Rev. F. G. W. Ford of Brandonville Circuit, the Rev. J. B. Feather of Pleasant Hill, the Rev. D. Tasker of St George and Aurora, the Rev. D. Cool of Evansville, the Rev. L. E. Leslie of Newburg, and the Rev. G. Rogers of Rowlesburg.

The Baptist. — We find account of this denomination next

after the Methodist. About the year 1800, the Rev. Kidd Smith, who was known as an "Iron side Baptist," preached at Sand Ridge, now called Scotch Hill. A church was afterward built here, known as the Iron-side Church, but finally went down in 1856. A Regular Baptist church was built on Sandy Creek about 1820 or 1825, whose pastor was Elder Jonathan Smith. In 1834, the Muddy Creek Baptist Church was organized at the house of Abraham Elliott. Churches were organized after this at Kingwood, on Buffalo Creek, Hazel Run, at Independence, Gladesville, Evansville, and other points. In 1848, the Rev. J. M. Purinton came to Preston County on account of ill health, and served these churches for many years, in connection with preaching outside of the county. He was a very able divine. In April, 1862, he left Preston, never to return. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Burritt College, and died at Morgantown, West Virginia, June 17th, 1869, greatly lamented.

Presbyterian.—The Presbyterian Church was the nursling of pious women. About 1840, Mrs. Israel Baldwin and Mrs. William G. Brown held meetings for prayer alternately at Baldwin's and Brown's. They were seconded in their efforts by Mrs. Thomas Brown and others. An organization was effected by the Rev. Mr. Bristol, and elders Jones and Smith, of Fairmont. A brick house was built which served its day, and on whose site the present fine edifice erected in 1877 now stands. A church was organized some time after, near Masontown; and one in 1869 at Cranberry, and another about the same time at Newburg. These churches are in the Presbytery of West Virginia.

Evangelical Association.—In the year 1835, the Rev. Messrs. J. Lutz, A. Frey and G. Serger, of this Church, stationed on the Somerset Circuit (Pennsylvania), extended their work into Preston County, and meeting with considerable success, Preston County was organized as Preston Circuit. In 1874, churches were built at Cranesville and Pleasant Dale. In March, 1875, the increase was such as to cause the

division of the circuit, and the appointments on the west side of Cheat formed Kingwood, while those on the east still remained as Preston Circuit. Among the prominent ministers of this church in Preston, is the Rev. G. W. White, an efficient, energetic worker, who is now stationed at Champion, Fayette County, Pennsylvania.

Dunkards or German Baptist.—About 1836, members of this church were in Preston County, and Elder Jacob Thomas, lately deceased, and others preached at schoolhouses. German Settlement Church, in Union District, in 1856, was built, and Salem Church, a few years later, in Grant District. Elder Solomon Bucklew is a prominent minister in this denomination; also, the Rev. Samuel A. Fike, and the Rev. James A. Ridenour, now preaching in Ohio.

Holy Roman Catholic.—About 1845, a church was built at Howesville, called St. Joseph's, by some German and Irish Catholic families living there. With the building of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad through Preston, a great many Catholics came to work upon it, and remained after its completion. They built churches at Cranberry, Rowlesburg, Tunnel Hill and Newburg. Among their ablest pastors stationed in Preston was the Rev. Father E. M. Hickey, now at Parkersburg. Preston County is included in the diocese of Wheeling, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Kain presiding.

United Brethren.—In 1873–4, the Rev. W. M. Weekley organized three churches: Old Sandy, Maple Run and Glade Run. They have as yet but one house of worship. Other churches, Irondale, Preston and Pleasant Hill, have been organized since 1873.

Amish.—The Amish branch of the Menonite family has a few representatives in Preston. The Church of Christ, a new branch of the Menonites, organized a church in 1871, in Union District, near the Maryland line; present, the Rev. Messrs. John Silbaugh and H. M. Hayden.

Sunday Schools—About 1825, Mr. Shaffer, father of Squire J. H. Shaffer, of Aurora, was working at Cumberland, and returning to Mount Carmel, organized a Sunday-school

upon the plan of those then in operation in Cumberland. The idea was favorably received by the different religious denominations, and Sunday-schools were organized all over the county, one being established at Kingwood in 1829, of which William Sigler was the first superintendent, and E. M. Hagans the second. Now Sunday-schools are nearly as numerous as the secular schools. Every church and many school-houses have these training schools in morals and religion for the youth of the land.

With the banner of the Cross in every land will be placed the Sunday-school standard leading the van of advancing civilization. Backward roll the tide of time a few decades. Two actors are on the stage of life. Each labor to establish empires. One, the storm-spirit of the old world, was sending the thunders of his death-dealing cannon into every quaking capital of Europe; Napoleon Bonaparte crimsoning the battle plain with earth's noblest blood, that the world might bend beneath his imperial sway. The other, Robert Raikes, the founder of the Sunday schools, was sending a ray of light into thousands of youthful hearts all over the civilized world. The empire of the one lies in ruins—the empire of the other rests over millions of loving hearts. The whole world should celebrate the Sunday-school anniversary. The United States has its Independence-day; let the world have its Sunday-School Celebration-day.

Missionaries. — The Rev. James L. Homes, of Preston County, graduated at Columbian College, D. C., in 1857; married Miss S. J. Little, of Cumberland, Maryland, that year, and sailed the same fall as a missionary for Shanghai, China. He obtained great influence over the Chinese. In September, 1861, a great rebellion was raging in the Celestial Kingdom, and he was killed by mistake by a party of the rebels, near the city of Chefoo

The Rev. George H. McGrew, son of the Hon. James C. McGrew, was born in Kingwood, May 19, 1846. When fourteen years of age he entered Fort Edward Institute, New York, from which he graduated, and then entered the Wes-

leyan University at Middletown, Connecticut, and graduated. Next, he attended the Harvard Law School. Returning to Kingwood, he became the law-partner of the Hon. William G. Brown. He sailed for Moradabad, India, as a missionary under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church, November 30, 1875. In 1876, he married Miss Julia Lore, and is still engaged in missionary work in the same field, and is a member of the North India conference of the M. E. Church.

CHAPTER XV.

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY.

EARLY SCHOOLS—KINGWOOD AND BRANDONVILLE ACADEMIES—
THE FREE SCHOOL SYSTEM: COUNTY SUPERINTENDENTS—THE
PAPERS OF THE COUNTY: AGRICULTURAL, POLITICAL AND
INDEPENDENT.

Two hundred years had not elapsed from the time when Enoch Flower opened in Philadelphia the first school in America until the schoolmaster was abroad in Preston County. With the disappearance of the "Settlers' Fort" of the frontier appeared the early school-house. From the memories of the old men the picture of that venerable institution comes down to us.

A single-story round-log cabin with a huge stone chimney extending clear across one end of the structure; a log left out along each side and its space covered with paper pasted to the adjoining logs and greased with hogslard, answered for the transmission of light and constituted the windows of the establishment. The door swung on wooden hinges and was equipped with a wooden latch, which raised by a deer skin string. The roof was of clapboards, held down by weight-poles fastened with hickory withes. A puncheon floor of slabs with the round side down, was fastened to heavy sleepers by means of wooden pins. A slab fastened along the walls answered for a writing bench. The seats were slabs with the flat surface up, into which holes were bored and legs inserted. They were devoid of backs.

The "master," as the teacher was then called, grim and stern, presided with absolute authority, and woe to the luck-

less urchin who incurred his displeasure by a violation of his rules or a failure to have his "task," as a lesson was often called. The master made and mended the goose-quill pens of that day, while every scholar gathered maple bark and manufactured his own ink. The books were few, but were thoroughly mastered, and the old United States Spelling-Book and English Reader played an important part in the schools when aspiring to better houses in years not a half a century ago.

The subject of corporal punishment had not yet reached the debatable stage in those days, and a master's reputation depended to a large extent upon his whipping power. A rigid discipline and a stern enforcement were the order of the day; and but a few years ago, when a teacher of ability and reputation said that "the basis of school government is a big club," the remark was a cutting satire on the too common and prevalent opinion of to-day, that the teacher should govern by "moral suasion" alone. There are scholars that no amount of moral suasion can affect, and the only efficient remedy that can be given with favorable results is a dose of "hickory oil," and a pretty heavy one at that; and if given in time, one dose is found to be sufficient when all moral suasion remedies fail.

The early schools were kept up by subscriptions, the master boarding around among the patrons of the schools. These schools, as far as authentic evidence can be found, commenced about 1790 in Preston County, and among the early teachers were Augustus Christian Whitehair, in the German Settlement; and a man by the name of Murphy, at Kingwood. Wood was used for fuel, and the master and scholars had it to cut, and often the hour at noon was thus employed. These early school-houses possessed one advantage—they were well ventilated, being generally very open. When a better class of houses succeeded them, the same subscription system was continued.

The Kingwood Academy was built to give a better education to those who desired it than that afforded by the subscription schools, and to save them the great cost of attending good schools at a distance. Among its teachers was Alexander Martin, once president of the West Virginia University, and now president of Asbury University, Indiana.

The Brandon Academy was built for the same purpose.

After 1830 the State provided a fund by the name of the "Literary Fund" for the education of poor children unable to attend school on account of their parents' inability to pay tuition. Preston County never received very much aid from this fund. Israel Baldwin was for many years one of the commissioners of Preston for the distribution of whatever the county drew from this fund.

The subscription system with the limited aid of the literary fund engrafted upon it, continued until the formation of the State of West Virginia, when a free school system was originated to take the place of the subscription system, and went into general effect in 1865. It provided that a tax be laid, and schools be opened for the teaching of all between the ages of 6 and 21 that saw fit to attend. County superintendents were to be elected to examine teachers and have general supervision of the schools in each county, while every township was to elect a school board which had special supervision of its schools, and appointed three trustees for each school, whose duties were to select a teacher and see the house was kept in order, etc. A provision was also made that every two years the people of every township should vote upon the question for and against school levy, thus leaving it to every township then and every district now to have free schools or not. The legislature of West Virginia since the creation of the free school system, in some respects, has done but little to advance its interests. Generally, whatever laws one legislature passed concerning the schools, the next legislature would reverse.

The first county superintendent of Preston was James P. Smith, who, appointed in 1864, served until 1865. In 1865,

A. C. Baker was elected, and re-elected in 1867, and served until 1869.

In 1869, Thomas Fortney was elected, and served until 1871.

In 1871, John H. Feather was elected, his competitor being the Rev. J. H. Cupp. Mr. Feather was again elected in 1873, his competitor being Professor James B. Chaffin. For that year the Rev. J. H. Cupp and Professor Chaffin, with the county superintendent, constituted the board to examine teachers; for 1874, P. R. Smith and the Rev. J. H. Cupp.

In 1875, John H. Feather was again re-elected, his competitors being P. R. Smith, A. J. Bonafield and George Deakins. Taylor Friend and Thomas Fortney were appointed members of the board of examiners. In 1876, Taylor Friend and Ezra W. Zinn received the appoinment as members of the board of examiners. In 1877, Peter R. Smith and J. Evan David were candidates before the people for county superintendent. Mr. Smith was elected, and Thomas Fortney and Charles T. Vansickle were appointed members of the board of examiners. Mr. Fortney, however, did not serve, being assessor at that time.

In 1878, Colonel R. W. Monroe and Dr. M. S. Bryte were appointed members of the board of examination.

Up to 1879, no one had run for the county superintendency as the candidate of any political party. In that year the Republican party called a convention to nominate a candidate for the position. Peter R. Smith, Dr. M. S. Bryte and W. S. Bayles were candidates before the convention. Mr. Bayles received the nomination, and ran for the office against S. T. Wiley, independent candidate. Mr. Bayles was elected, receiving 1349 to his opponent's 993. In 1879, Col. R. W. Monroe and Jesse Hays were appointed members of the board of examination; and in 1880, Col. R. W. Monroe was succeeded by A. Judson Elliott.

In 1881, Dr. M. S. Bryte, A. J. Elliott, J. H. Hawthorne and M. T. Powell were candidates for the Republican nomination, which Mr. Hawthorne received. He ran, Peter R. Smith being an independent candidate, and was elected, receiving 1068 votes to Mr. Smith's 502. Col. R. W. Monroe and John H. Feather were appointed members of the board of examiners.

Comparative Statistics for 1869 and 1879.—In 1869, there were enumerated in the county 2899 males and 2664 females, white; and 7 males and 10 females, colored, making a total enumeration of 5579. There were 95 sub-districts and 103 teachers; 75 frame houses, 1 brick and 11 log houses. The total number of pupils in attendance was 3994, and the average daily attendance, 2862. Teachers' salaries aggregated \$10,678. The value of school property was \$43,997.25, and the State apportionment was \$5311.60.

In 1879, there were 126 frame, one brick and one log house in the county, and school property was valued at \$63,720. There were 137 teachers employed—116 males, 21 females. 2834 white males and 2265 white females, making a total of 5099 white children; and there were 15 colored males and 8 colored females. Total number that attended school, was 5122. The average daily attendance was 3548. The State appropriation or apportionment was \$7901.16. Aggregate salary of teachers, \$15,665.42; average monthly wages of teachers, \$28.84.

The State apportionment for Preston County for the year 1879–'80 was \$7130.23, and for 1880–'81, \$7066.96.

Some years no reports were made by our superintendents, and there are no data in tabular form later then 1879.

Several county institutes have been held in Preston since the origin of the free school system. A county institute was held in 1877 by County Superintendent P. R. Smith, at Kingwood. A Peabody institute was held in 1878, at Kingwood, under the supervision of Prof. Z. G. Bundy. A. L. Cox, of Morgantown, conducted the county institutes of 1880, at Kingwood and Cranberry. In 1881, the county institutes were held at Kingwood and Newburg. At the former place by Prof. Ulysses S. Fleming, an excellent teacher, who taught a normal school at Masontown in 1878, and was principal of the Kingwood school in 1879. He is now connected with the State normal school at Fairmont. The other institute was held at Newburg, by Prof. A. L. Purinton, principal of the Parkersburg city schools, and the Republican nominee for State superintendent in 1880.

The rightful education of the children of the land is a subject that involves the dearest interests of the people; for to the care of the young and rising generation must be committed for final solution so many of the great problems now in agitation, and upon whose decision will rest to so large an extent the future stability and prosperity of our free institutions.

The Press is a great educator, and he who does not give it place in educational history, and a prominent place too, is profoundly ignorant of the educational forces of the age.

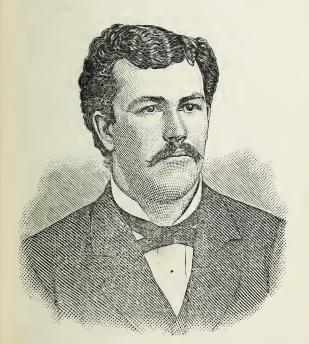
The first paper in the county was the agricultural monthly known as the Silk Culturist, which became a political paper in 1840. It was succeeded by the Fellowsville Democrat, Preston County Democrat, Kingwood Chronicle, The Preston County Journal, Preston County Herald (which became the West Virginia Argus in 1877), political papers, and the Broad-Ax and Newburg Herald, independent papers.

JOSEPH H. HAWTHORNE.

The ancestry of the subject of this sketch follows a well defined descent from the "Hawthorne Clan" of the Scottish Highland. As one of the smaller of the many Highland clans, this one figured for a time in the history of Scotland, until during an emigration of Scotch Presbyterians to Ireland, most of this clan removed thither, settling in the County of Derry. Here Robert Hawthorne, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, was born and raised of this Scotch Presbyterian parentage.

During the American Revolution, John Hawthorne, a brother of Robert, sympathizing with the Colonies, engaged as a privateer to cripple the English commerce, his vessel bringing several prizes into the harbor at Philadelphia. Having married in that city, and moved by his admiration for the new country he returned, after the close of the war, to his kindred in Ireland, to induce them to emigrate to America. Following his advice, in the fall of 1789, Robert, with his brothers and sisters, among whom was Rachel, then just married to James Brown, and who afterwards became the mother of the Hon. William G. Brown, set sail from Londonderry landing at Philadelphia. Upon their arrival they found that John had again engaged in privateering in a war between Spain and some of her colonies, and that his wife had died, leaving one child, of which they took charge. Remaining in the city a short time, they met a man by the name of Burgess, an heir to the "Clairbourne and Mayland" or "Big Survey" of 97,000 acres of land in northwestern Virginia, who agreed to give them 600 acres of this land, near where Kingwood now stands, if they would settle upon it, which proposition they accepted.

In the spring of 1790, they came to what is now Preston County, but not finding the 600 acres just such land as they anticipated, they sold their interest in it and James Brown bought lands near where Kingwood now stands, and Robert



JOSEPH H. HAWTHORNE.



and Alexander Hawthorne and their two sisters bought about 400 acres of land some four miles south of Morgantown, Monongalia County, which has since been called the "Hawthorne Homestead," and where for a number of years previous to and after the year 1800 they carried on a nail factory, which supplied all the surrounding country with nails, including the territory now embraced in Preston County.

Robert Hawthorne married, about 1810, Miss Nancy Kiger, of Morgantown, and by her had some nine children, the oldest of whom was James Alexander, the father of the subject of this sketch, born in December, 1811, and who, about 1855, married Elizabeth S. Henderson, the daughter of a neighbor, Joseph Henderson, who had come from Ireland to Philadelphia and then to northwestern Virginia. Both are still living, and reside some four miles below Morgantown, on the Monongahela River, and have four children.

Joseph Henderson Hawthorne, the eldest son, was boin October 1, 1856. His early years were spent at home on the farm, and when about the age of ten, entered the free school, distant about one mile from his home, at a little place called Jim Town. At fifteen, he had mastered the free school course of study, and at once entered West Virginia University, at its spring term, 1872. Here he pursued the classical course of study during the scholastic year and helped his father with the farm work during the summer vacation, until June 28, 1877, when he graduated, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, from the University, in a class of nine members, the faculty awarding him the philosophical oration on the commencement programme, which by custom was regarded as the third honor of the graduating class. During his course at the University he was appointed a State cadet and graduated as a first lieutenant. In June, 1880, he received the degree of Master of Arts.

After graduation he began the study of law with John J. Brown, Esq., of Morgantown, which he continued until in November of the same year, when he was elected principal of the Kingwood Academy. In this position he taught

school, still studying law during his spare moments, until July 3, 1878, when, at Wheeling, he passed an examination by Judges Haymond, Moore and Johnson of the Supreme Court, and was admitted to the practice of law in the State. He taught two more terms of school as principal of the Kingwood Academy, and read law whenever opportunity presented through 1878 and 1879, and on the 15th of September, 1879, he formed a branch law-partnership with ex-Judge Ralph L. Berkshire and George C. Sturgiss Esq., of Morgantown, at Kingwood, in which firm he is at present practicing law.

In the spring of 1881, he received the nomination of the Republican party for the office of superintendent of free schools in Preston County, and on the 17th of May following was elected by a large majority. In this position, during the winter months, he hopes to systematize and elevate the the schools of the county, and incite in its citizens a deeper interest in its educational concerns.

He is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Kingwood, and in January, 1881, was elected superintendent of its Sabbath-school, which position he still occupies.

On the 20th of September, 1881, he married Miss Kate F. Godwin, the second daughter of Captain Joseph M. Godwin, of Kingwood.

Mr. Hawthorne is a robust young man, a young man of fine literary attainments and of excellent habits; and to excellent habits adds industry, and to industry energy, and to all these his opening life bids fair to add the lasting honor of unselfish usefulness to his fellow men, whether in the private or public walks of life.

CHAPTER XVI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

POLITICAL HISTORY: PARTIES, LIST OF REPRESENTATIVES—TEM-PERANCE ORGANIZATIONS—INDUSTRIAL HISTORY: FURNACES, WOOLEN FACTORIES, COAL MINES—NATURAL WONDERS: THE ICE MOUNTAIN, THE GREAT SANDSTONE CAVE, AND CHEAT RIVER CAVERN—VALUABLE MINERALS.

Upon the merits or demerits of the parties that are gone, we do not propose to pass, and of the virtues or vices of the political parties now existing, we shall have nothing to say. Preston County, from 1820 to 1840, cast her vote for president for Democratic candidates.

In 1840, Preston gave Harrison, 396; Van Buren, 446,

1844 — Henry Clay, 332; James K. Polk, 504.

1848 - Lewis Cass, 527; General Taylor, 460.

1852 — Franklin Pierce, 923; General Scott, 647.

1856 — Buchanan, 1230; Filmore, 719. No vote recorded for Fremont, though it is claimed a few were cast for him in the county.

In 1860, Bell received some votes, Douglass a large number, but Breckenridge a majority, and Lincoln a very few.

In 1864, Lincoln carried the county over McClellan; and in 1868, Grant over Seymour.

In 1872, Gen. Grant received 1720 votes, and Horace Greeley 714.

In 1876, R. B. Hayes, 2183; S. J. Tilden, 1224.

In 1880, J. A. Garfield, 2347; W. S. Hancock, 1335; J. B. Weaver, 157.

The present chairman of the Republican county committee

is the Hon. W. M. O. Dawson; of the Democratic, John Barton Payne; and of the Greenback, Jacob Gibson.

We can not give a full list of members of the lower house of the legislature of Virginia from Preston County, from the fact, as the Secretary of the State of Virginia informs us, that the Union soldiers destroyed many of the public records. This destruction of records leaves blank the dates of many important events and facts in this work. If ever a county was cursed by the destruction of its records — the very basis of its written history—that county is Preston. In 1796, twenty years' records, containing its early legal and civil history, from 1776 to 1796, were burned at Morgantown; and in 1869, it was again cursed by the fire fiend; and in the burning of its Court-house disappeared 50 years' more of its records. And as if it were not enough to bridge over these two great gaps burned by fire, vandal hands must ruthlessly mutilate the State records and cause gaps in matters valuable to the county and only on record at the Capital. The loss to the county by the destruction of all these records never can be repaired. Their loss is attested by the incompleteness of some fact, the want of some name or date on many a page of this work, that no search could supply.

From 1818 to 1831, nothing can be found to show who represented Preston County. William Sigler was one of the representatives in 1818, but who was his colleague nobody knows. In 1819 and 1826, he was again a member. From the best and most reliable information that can be gained during that period of time, Frederick Hersh, Colonel John Fairfax, Benjamin Jeffers, Colonel Nathan Ashby, Major William B. Zinn, and Colonel Benjamin Shaw each served one or more terms. From 1831 till 1861, Preston was represented by the following named delegates.

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1831—William B. Zinn.	1832—William B. Zinn.
1833—William G. Brown.	1834—William Carroll.
1835—William Carroll.	1836—William Carroll.
1837—Buckner Fairfax.	1838—Buckner Fairfax.
1839—William Carroll.	1840—William Carroll.

1841—William G. Brown. 1842—William G. Brown.

1843—William G. Brown. 1844—Israel Baldwin.

1845—Buckner Fairfax. 1846—Buckner Fairfax.

1847—Buckner Fairfax. 1848—John Scott.

1849—Stephen Wheeler. 1850—Stephen Wheeler.

1851—Buckner Fairfax.

1852—William B. Zinn and John Scott.

1853-J. A. F. Martin and William B. Zinn.

1854—J. A. F. Martin and E. T. Brandon.

1855—J. C. Kemble and J. A. F. Martin.

1856—J. C. Kemble and R. E. Cowan.

1857-J. C. Kemble and John Scott.

1858—J. C. Kemble and R. E. Cowan.

1859—William B. Zinn and John Scott.

1860—John Scott and R. E. Cowan.

1861—John Scott and R. E. Cowan.

Members of the re-organized legislature of Virginia from Preston County.

1861—Colonel Charles Hooton and Harrison Hagans.

1862—Colonel Charles Hooton and Harrison Hagans.

Members of the lower house of the legislature of West Virginia:

1863—James C. McGrew and William B. Zinn.

1864—James C. McGrew and W. H. King.

1865—James C. McGrew and W. H. King.

1866—Harrison Hagans and William B. Zinn.

1867—Francis Heermans and Joseph H. Gibson. 1868—Francis Heermans and William B. Crane.

1869—Francis Heermans and Joseph H. Gibson.

1870—A. C. Baker and John Collins.

1871—Charles M. Bishop and John P. Jones.

1872—William G. Brown and Charles Kantner.

1874—James H. Wilson and Peter Zinn.

1876—Capt. William Elliott and Colonel J. D. Rigg.

1878—Page R. McCrum and John H. Holt.

1880—Page McCrum and Major U. N. Orr.

After 1871, members of the house of delegates were elected for a term of two years; previous, for one year.

Upon the question of calling the constitutional convention of 1829-30, the vote of Preston was, 121 for and 357 against. William G. Brown was a member of the constitutional convention of 1851.

Members of the constitutional convention of 1861, John A. Dille and John J. Brown.

Members of the constitutional convention of 1872, William G. Brown and Charles Kantner.

Sheriffs of Preston County.—Colonel John Fairfax, it is said, was the first, but he never served, selling his two years to Joseph D. Suit. Frederick Hersh, it is said, was the next, and he sold his two years to Suit also. The price of the sheriffalty was about \$200. Several of the justices who received the appointment, sold it, and the county had several acting and deputy sheriffs. Colonel Nathan Ashby served a term, as also did Hugh Evans and W. H. Grimes, and others whose names are lost and of whom we can get no record.

Elliott, Brown and Grimes served before 1860.

1861—Martin L. Shaffer, elected and resigned.

1863—Francis Heermans. 1873—Elisha Thomas.

1867—Reuben Warthen. 1877—Francis M. Ford.

1871—Col. W. H. King. 1881—Elisha Thomas

County Court.—In 1872 Captain Joseph M. Godwin was elected president of the county court; in 1876, Joseph M. Shaw.

By amendment to the constitution adopted in 1880, the judicial power (except as to probate) was taken from the county court, and the body was made to consist of three commissioners. The commissioners elected in 1880 for Presten, and now serving, are Captain H. Clay Hagans (chosen president for 1881), John P. Jones, and James Allender. Mr. Allender drew the long term (6 years); Mr. Hagans, the next longest, 4 years; and Mr. Jones, the short term, 2 years. Previous to 1880, the presidents of the

county court were elected by popular vote; now they are chosen by the members of the court.

County Surveyors.—General Buckner Fairfax was the first, in 1818, and was succeeded in 1836 by John Royse. Royse, who served till 1845, and was succeeded by Reuben Morris. Mr. Morris served till 1858, when he was succeeded by G. M. Michael, who was surveyor until 1861, when he, in turn, was succeeded by Reuben Morris. Mr. Morris served the second time until 1866, and was succeeded by Edward G. Morris, his son, after whom came Jesse Martin, until 1880, when John A. Dalrymple was elected.

We find traces of temperance societies, both secret and open, nearly half a century ago in the history of the county; and from that time down to the present, every few years has witnessed a considerable temperance movement. In May, 1869, we find the county board of supervisors voting on the license question as follows: Harader, Conner, Messenger and Pell voted for license to retail spirituous liquors, and Grimes, Rigg and Bishop against.

Walter Carlisle was pioneer of the iron industry of Preston, but his wonderful energy was not able without capital to make Greenville Furnace a success. Harrison Hagans was the next to attempt the development of the iron ores of the county. He was president of a Boston company that ran Greenville Furnace for a length of time. Caldwell and Ochiltree were the next iron men, building Valley Furnace about 1837 or '38, but for want of capital failed. The great cost of transporting their iron to market was the drawback to these early furnaces, whose fires were doomed to go out on this account. When the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad was projected, Harrison Hagans built Virginia Furnace on Muddy Creek, in 1853, and hauled his iron to Cranberry Summit, and shipped it by rail. His venture was successful, but the furnace passing out of his hands, failed through bad management to be self-sustaining under the charge of his successors.

George Hardman was the next leading character in the iron business. He was a man of great energy and endowed with fine business qualifications, but unfortunately without sufficient capital. He built Hardman's Furnace in 1859, about two and a half miles from Independence. This furnace passing out of his hands, he went back a few miles, and in 1869 started Gladesville Furnace; but the fate of his first venture soon overtook him here, and the furnace passed into other hands.

The next to take up the iron business in the county was Colonel F. Nemegyei, who bought Hardman's Furnace and changed its name to Irondale Furnace. He has operated it since with marked success.

Iron ores are abundant, and if a railway were once completed along the banks of Cheat, all the extinct furnace fires along the eastern base of Chestnut Ridge would be rekindled.

The woolen manufactories of the county are deserving of notice. A factory at Evansville is owned by Jonathan Bowman. The Bruceton factory was established about 1850, and is now efficiently operated by Charles Kantner. Morgan's Glade factory is the third and last, and is successfully carried on by J. W. Rigg & Son. The flannels and goods turned out by the two last-named establishments bear the reputation of being first-class in every respect. This industry should be one of the foremost of the county. Preston should take a front rank as a sheep-breeding and woolraising county. The climate of our county, though milder than that of New England and the Middle States, yet possesses a severity sufficient to cause that consumption of food necessary to produce a heavy fleece. Of fine wooled sheep, three great branches of the merino that came originally from Spain are in this county. They are the French, German and American. Each of these has been tried in West Virginia, and the American merino has proved to be the most valuable. Preston, peculiarly fortunate in water, soil, surface and climate for sheep, its citizens should not be slow to take advantage of these favoring conditions.

If Preston, a county as abundant in all the resources that constitutes the wealth of any county, and with a large, intelligent and reading population, does not advance, it is her own fault; and if she does not become one of the foremost mining and manufacturing counties in the State, the fault will also be her own.

Coal-mines are extensively operated at Newburg and Austen, and a great deal of superior coke manufactured.

Among the natural wonders of the young and rising State of West Virginia, are its ice mountains — two frozen wonders, the Arctic brothers of the North Temperate Zone—one situated in Hampshire and the other in Preston County on the North Western Turnpike, two miles west from Cheat River at the mouth of Buffalo Run. The Preston County polar stranger was described by the writer in the Wheeling Register in 1879, which description was copied by the New York Sun, Toledo Blade, Cincinnati Times, and the press of the land, thus giving the county and its strange wonder mention throughout the whole country. At the time of its discovery, in 1879, the most marvelous stories and the wildest theories were put in circulation, representing it as a great ice-field, with nine acres of a solid ice surface exposure; the heart of an immense mountain as a solid mass of ice, frozen in the morning of creation, and so remaining for countless ages to the present time; an iceberg that in some remote glacial period had stranded in its southern sweep, and the volcanic actions of the internal fires of the earth had upheaved and hurled a vast mountain upon it for its imprisonment for all time. But leaving the frost and fire of these wild theories, when the Alleghanies, next to the oldest dry land in the world, was hurled up, this mountain contained no ice, it being an after deposit.

The mountain is a vast heap of rock, a portion of whose west side is more broken and loose than the rest. The porous nature of this portion would admit through its moss

covering a considerable amount of water, which, infiltrating between the stone, would form ice in just the manner we find it, in small quantities among the loose rock a few inches down from the surface. The ice-mountain is nothing but a huge stone refrigerator — naturally, though wonderfully, preserving permanently its ice by the vast mass of rock — good non-conducting material — which forms its sides.

Caves generally exist in limestone formation, and are but seldom found in any other rock, and then of no great extent or size. But the great sandstone cave in Preston County, about three miles from Masontown, is a notable exception. A vast chamber 17 feet in hight and 125 feet in width, opens back into the cliff, retaining its width, while its roof rapidly approaches the floor, and unites with it 255 feet from the mouth. This great opening chamber connects by a narrow passage with a lower chamber, whose depths and extent have never been fully explored. This cave is but a short distance from the celebrated Decker's Creek Falls, where the water falls over five successive falls, the greatest of which is near 20 feet. These falls are situated amid scenery so wild, impressive and attractive as to bring great numbers of visitors every year.

The great Cheat River cavern is situated on that stream, on the east side, opposite the "Beaver Hole," and its mouth is full a quarter of a mile from the water's edge, and is reached by a precipitous and almost perpendicular ascent. The cave is at the base of a towering cliff of rocks, under which it extends. Its mouth is 14 feet high by 5 feet wide. A fine stream of water runs through it. This cave has never been explored, yet its extent is conjectured to be considerable.

Traces of ochre exist in the county, also saltpetre and copperas; while a mineral paint, a reddish-brown in color, is abundant in Kingwood District.

Traditions and old men's stories tell of lead, zinc, copper, gold and silver existing in paying quantities in different parts of Preston. The geological structure of the county does not admit of their existence in any quantity in any part. Spruce

Creek seems the most favorable locality for lead or silver, and presents faint indications of a vein of anthracite coal, which, if it exists in any quantity, will be far more valuable than all the stores of precious metals on its waters. Lead has been found in several localities, but indications are that it is not in workable quantities. Traces of zinc and copper exist, but are traces only, not quantities.

In deep hollows and wild ravines, legend tells of bright gold coined and shining silver moulded into dollars, yet careful examination proves that either exist only as a faint trace, and not as the outcrop of any vein; while the shining pyrites and the white scales of mica have lured many a foolish man away from profitable employment in quest of treasure-wealth only existing in tradition. While the county possesses no treasures in the precious metals, yet she has a wealth of waters pure and invigorating. Several calybeate springs exist, and at Irondale Furnace a spring was struck in digging a well, whose waters are considered by eminent physicians as an excellent tonic and a remedy for kidney and liver diseases, having already effected several remarkable cures. Already it is being shipped in small quantities to many places.

CHAPTER XVII.

GRANT DISTRICT.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—EARLY SETTLEMENTS—MORRIS'S FORT—
ROADS—ORGANIZATIONS: MAGISTERIAL, TOWNSHIP, DISTRICT—
TOWNS—MAIL SERVICE—FURNACES—SALT WELL—OIL WELL—CHEAT RIVER CAVE—RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS—SCHOOLS.

The territory of Grant was embraced in the First (magisterial) District when Preston County was divided in 1852. And in 1863, in order of division of the county as then made, it became without any change of boundaries Pleasant Township. By a change of designation merely, in 1873, it became Grant District. It is bounded on the north by Pennsylvania, on the east by Maryland, on the south by Pleasant District, and on the west by Cheat River, which separates it from Valley District.

Grant District lies within the celebrated Ligonier Valley. On the east Laurel Hill and on the west Chestnut Ridge loom up, while through the center high and broad-topped hills extend. The surface is broken, except in the eastern part, where a high elevated plain, called "the glades," stretches away to the foot of Laurel Hill Ridge. On the hills the soil may be classed as a clay loam, while along the creek bottoms and on the chestnut ridges, it is a sand loam, and when properly tilled yields fair crops of wheat, corn, rye, buckwheat, oats, and barley. One day, it was supposed wheat could not be raised, but now it is a regular crop, and averages from 7 to 10 bushels per acre.

The climate is healthy, but naturally cold in winter from

the high elevation of the district. The winters are mostly open and broken, with cold spells. The district is well supplied with water. Springs are abundant, and Big Sandy Creek, with its tributaries, Laurel Run from the west, and Little Sandy from the east, afford water-power for saw- and grist-mill at many different points.

Timber is still plentiful, though much has been destroyed. Oak is most abundant on the hills, and chestnut on the ridges; while sugar, ash, poplar, sycamore, and cherry are to be found in places.

Coal is abundant in every part of the district, the Upper and Lower Freeport veins ranging from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 feet in thickness.

Limestone is abundant in the eastern, western and northern portions of the district; in the east and north ranging from 3 to 5 feet, while in the western portion the great 100-foot vein comes to the surface.

Iron ore is also abundant in the western and northern portions, and is pronounced to be an article of superior quality.

Fruit does well. Apple orchards are on nearly every farm: peaches are only an occasional crop, while pears and cherries yield well wherever planted; and small fruits, such as currants, gooseberries, strawberries, etc., do well. The hardier varieties of the grape seldom fail to bear an abundant crop. Blackberries and whortleberries are abundant on the mountain ridges.

The panther, bear buffalo, elk, and wolf once roamed over the hills, but have long since disappeared. Wild-cats are the most formidable animals left. Deer still remains in limited numbers, and in the north rattlesnakes and copper-snakes are found.

Horses, cattle and sheep do well, and the district is well adapted to dairying and sheep raising.

Indian Graves and Trails.—Grant as a hunting ground did not possess attraction sufficient for the dusky sons of the forest to cause them to locate permanently on its soil. Back of Bruceton on land owned by Mr. Bell, of Pittsburgh, are one

or two very large Indian stone-pile graves that never have been opened. Arrow- and spear-heads are found all over the district. An old Indian trail came down Big Sandy Creek, and McCullough's old path coming up Big Sandy and passing through Wymp's Gap, was originally the great northern Indian trail.

Early Settlements.—The first permanent settlement in the county was made in Grant, on Big Sandy Creek, by John Judy in 1769, on the Squire Henry Smith farm; and a son or brother of his settled on the Sliger farm in 1772. Martin Judy, in 1780 settled on Sandy, near the site of Clifton Mills. The Judys removed to Ohio, and none can tell of their relationship or whence they came.

Contemporaneous with Judy was James Clark, who came from Ireland and settled at what is now known as the Pysel place on Big Sandy, above Clifton Mills. His wife, nee Mary Ramsey, dying in 1770, he returned to Ireland, and three years afterward married Eleanor Kirkpatrick, and sailed for America. Their children were Samuel, Isabella (wife of Colonel Patrick McGrew and mother of the Hon. James C. McGrew), Robert, William, Mary, and Isaac Clark died in 1808, aged 76, and was buried on his farm. His widow removed to Indiana.

The second settlement in Grant and the second in the county was made in 1770, on the farm of Jesse Spurgin, in "the Glades," by Samuel Worral, Sr., and one Worley, a sickle-maker from Philadelphia. Gabriel Greathouse, Zebulon Hogue, and Thomas Cheney settled around him, and in a year or so Richard Morris came in, and in 1774, on his farm, now occupied by Shipley Mitchell, Fort Morris was built, and the settlement went by the name of the "Sandy Creek Glades," being on the headwaters of Little Sandy. James Spurgin came to the glades in 1784, from Wills Creek, Maryland, and bought out Samuel Worral. Worral left, and nothing authentic can be obtained concerning him or his neighbors, Morris, Greathouse, Worley, Hogue, and Cheney, as to where they went.

Spurgin's wife was Elizabeth Browning, an aunt to the celebrated Meshach Browning, the great hunter. They had two sons, Jonathan, who went to the Kanawha, and Jesse, who married Catherine Spahr, and is the ancestor of the Spurgins of Grant. His son Jesse now occupies the homefarm, and is a stock-dealer.

David and Ephraim Frazee and the Archers came about 1784. Frederick Spahr took up a large tract of land, and his daughter Susanna married John Cuppett, who came from Bedford County, Pennsylvania, in 1723. They had several daughters who went west; Daniel (the father of Alpheus Cuppett), John, Jacob, and Henry.

Phillip Beerbower, the ancestor of that family, came about 1820; and about the same time William Robinson, whose wife was Mary Payton, came from England and bought land here. He raised a large and respectable family. One of his children was the Rev. John C. Robinson, lately deceased, whose sons Albert M. and M. W. occupy the old home-farm.

In 1800, John Scott came from Baltimore and settled in the glades. He was elected justice of the peace and served until his death in 1828. One of his sons, John, represented Preston County in the Virginia legislature several terms, and died in Richmond on the evening of the day Fort Sumter was fired on by the Confederates. Another son, Thomas Scott, was a contractor on the turnpikes from 1835 to 1840; served as postmaster and justice of the peace, and now resides at Brandonville.

The next settlements of which we have any records, were made about 1781, on Big Sandy, in the vicinity of Brandon-ville and Bruceton. John and Samuel Robinett settled south of Brandonville, and John's wife Catharine was buried in 1783, on the farm now owned by Samuel Forquer. John Robinett, it is said, once made 1000 rails in a day on a wager of five gallons of whiskey. They sold to Robert Forman, a quaker, whose wife was Mary Naylor, who came from Baltimore. One of their sons, Isaac, died at Fort Meigs in the

War of 1812. Isaac was the father of John Forman, who now resides at Bruceton.

The Robinetts sold also the land whereon Brandonville stands to Colonel Jonathan Brandon, who came with his brother, Alexander Brandon, in 1786, from Cumberland County, Pennsylvania. Alexander was the father of William and Walter Brandon. With the Brandons came Patrick McGrew, whose children in after years all removed to the West, except Colonel James, who married Isabella Clark, and remained. One of his sons is the Hon. James C. McGrew, another is Isaac McGrew, who now occupies the old homefarm, near Brandonville.

Near where Buceton now is William and Robert Conner settled before 1790. Robert married Elizabeth Forman, and his son William was a justice of the peace for years, and was the oldest justice when the change of the constitution in 1829–30 cut him off from being sheriff. His son, 'Squire Samuel Conner, now occupies the home place.

Samuel Morton came from West Chester County, Pennsylvania, in 1791, and owned the first mill on Big Sandy Creek, at Bruceton. He raised a large family, who nearly all went West, and one of his sons, Thomas, married Rebecca Squires, and it is claimed was the grandfather of Senator Oliver P. Morton. But two representatives of the family remain East—Samuel in Pennsylvania, and Nancy, an aged lady, in Grant.

James Walls, the ancestor of the Walls family, about 1770 settled on the east side of Cheat, and founded the Walls Settlement. In 1786, John Willits, of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, whose wife was Rachel Hughes, settled about one mile east of where Brandonville now is. He died in 1826 at the age of 78 years. His family all removed from the county, except a son, Jesse, who remained and married Rebecca Forman. His family mostly left the county. Ami, Owen, Ezra, and Rachel went West. Israel died in Preston, and Ruth, the wife of David Frankhouser, is still living.

About 1786, the McCollums came to the Sliger farm, near

Big Sandy, and John Harader to the vicinity of Clifton Mills, from Germany.

Nicholas Frankhouser came from Maryland to the vicinity of Brandonville in 1800, being originally from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. His wife was Susanna Broadstone. He died in 1850 at the age of 81. Three of his sons, old men, are still living in Grant—David, Peter, and Jacob.

About 1800, Samuel Darby came from New Jersey to the vicinity of Hopewell. His son John was the father of Samuel T. Darby, who now resides near that place. In 1818, the Rev. George Hagans came to Brandonville.

Jacob Smith, Sr., came from Somerset County, Penna., about 1825, and bought the large scope of land, a thousand acres or more, now known as the Smith farms, two miles north of Bruceton. His son Henry was a prominent man in the district, and was a justice of the peace, and owned a large amount of land now in charge of his son Lucian, upon which is located a strong sulphur spring of reputed curative properties. Josiah, another son, is still living, and resides upon an adjoining farm, a part of the original tract.

A few years after this, Christian Maust came from Maryland, and settled near Brandonville. His wife was a Seese, and one of his sons, George Maust, was one of the managers of Greenville Furnace, and afterward of the Virginia Furnace. He introduced and sold a large number of the first cooking stoves used in Preston and adjoining counties. He resides near St. Peter's Church, and being well informed in the law, is much sought by many for legal advice and to manage cases before the magistrates.

From 1830 cn, the growth of population was rapid, and those coming in were not entitled to the name of early settlers.

Old Fort Morris. — In 1774, in the "Sandy Creek Glades," this fort was standing on the land of Richard Morris. In fear of a threatened attack from the Indians, the whites from Washington County, Pa., and from towards Morgantown flocked here for safety. It was a stockade fort, on a run

emptying into Little Sandy, graced by the more practical than euphonious name of Hog Run. After a time the men returned to their clearings, but left the most of their women and children at the fort with a small guard. They drank of the water from the run in low marshy ground, and had something like ague. The old fort is gone, and hardly a vestige remains to mark its site. A cabin or two enclosed by saplings eight or ten feet high, driven into the earth two or three feet, enclosing about an acre on the run, constituted the fort. It stood about a quarter of a mile on the left of the Brandonville and Somerfield road, and about the same distance from the "Two Churches," opposite the dwelling lately occupied by Lot Spurgin.

Roads.—The earliest road of which we have any record was the "old Sandy Creek road." Crossing the State line and running through William Thomas's place, and on through the farm of Alpheus Cuppett and passing within a mile of Fort Morris, it went to the "Little Crossings," in Maryland. An old Morgantown road came by Hopewell above Bruceton, and on to the glades, past Jesse Spurgin's to the "Little Crossings," On this road were only two stopping-places from Morgantown to the "Little Crossings." A man by name of Wilson, where Lahamar Wolf lives, near Hopewell, kept a stand, and at Jesse Spurgin's was another. An old road ran from Cheat to the Beaver Dams (in Pleasant), and thence to the house of Jonathan Brandon. Next was the old Brandonville and Kingwood road, with a couple of "mud pikes" across the mountain northward to Haydentown and Uniontown, Pennsylvania. Then came the turnpike from Morgantown to Brandonville, in 1836, and the turnpikes from Brandonville, through the glades, to Somerfield; and to Kingwood. In 1857-8, a turnpike was made from Brandonville to Cranberry Summit. Three tolerable roads lead across the mountain to Pennsylvania.

Organizations. — From 1818 to 1852, the territory of the district was not recognized as a distinct part of the county. Colonel Jonathan Brandon was the first justice of the peace

within its limits of whom we have any account. John Scott, William Conner, Harrison Hagans, and Henry Smith were justices. In 1852, the territory of Grant was organized into the First District. In 1852, Harrison Hagans, Henry Smith, William McKee and James Hill were justices.

1856—William McKee, John Scott, Charles Kantner, and William Glover, justices.

1860 — William McKee and Harrison Hagans, justices.

On the 10th of July, 1863, a committee, of which Harrison Hagans was a member, established the First District by the name of Grant, in honor of General U.S. Grant, and ran its boundary lines (as still exist) as follows: Beginning at the mouth of Big Sandy Creek on the east side of Cheat River, thence up the creek, with the meanders thereof, to the mouth of Little Sandy Creek; thence up the last named creek, with its meanders, to Fike's mill; thence s. 81 degrees e. 740 perches to a chestnut at the mouth of Glover's lane; thence s. 43 degrees e 169 perches to a gum; thence s. 64 degrees e. 120 perches to a stone in the Maryland line; thence, with said line north, to a stone in the Pennsylvania line, known as the original corner of Maryland and Virginia; thence with the Pennsylvania line west 4940 (or 15 miles and 140 perches) to a stone marked M. and P., corner to Monongalia County; thence with three lines of said county reversed, to wit: south 500 poles to a stone marked M. and P.; thence south 22 west 1020 poles to the England ore-banks and a stone marked M. and P. 1841; thence south 5½ west 870 poles to a double chestnut on the east bank of Cheat River at the Beaver Hole; thence up the river, with its meanders, to the place of beginning.

1864—Justice, William McKee; school commissioner, Isaac McGrew.

1868 — Justices, William McKee and Frank Wolf.

1869 — William McKee, supervisor; John S. Mitchell, township clerk: Moses Silbaugh, surveyor of roads; George Maust, township treasurer; John C. Robinson, school com-

missioner; James G. Crawford and George W. Walls, inspectors of elections; Moses Silbaugh, constable.

1870 — Charles Kantner, supervisor; Alpheus D. Hagans, township clerk; Samuel Conner, justice; Mcses Silbaugh and Jonathan Chorpening, constables; John J. Thomas, overseer of the poor; Jacob C. Wolf and George Fear, school commissioners.

1872 — John C. Forman, supervisor; Jacob C. Wolf, school commissioner; John S. Mitchell, township clerk; David Mosser, overseer of the poor; William McKee and J. S. Mitchell, justices; George H. Armstrong and James D. Benson, constables.

1875 — School board, W. H. McGibbons (president), Geo. Walls and A. Conaway; J. M. Chidester, secretary.

1876 — Justices, William McKee and J. Shipley Mitchell. 1877 — School board, W. H. McGibbons (president), Geo. Walls, Jesse Spurgin; J. M. Chidester, secretary.

1879 — School board, W. H. McGibbons (president), J. J. Moyers, J. C. Wolf, John E. Orman, W. Thomas; J. M. Chidester, secretary.

1880 — Justices, William McKee and William Hagans.

1881 — School board, Dr. M. S. Bryte (president), John E. Orman and J. S. Mitchell; J. M. Chidester, secretary.

Towns. — Brandonville was laid out March 27, 1827, and named after Colonel Jonathan Brandon who built the first house on Dr. William Frey's lot. In 1818, the Rev. George Hagans and his three sons, Zer, Elisha M., and Harrison, moved here, and Harrison Hagans opened a store in the backroom of Brandon's house. He next kept in a storehouse on the site of the present residence of Captain H. C. Hagans. Several houses now went up, and the place assumed an air of business activity mainly through the exertions of Harrison Hagans. Zer Hagans married Catharine Dix, and removed to Petersburgh, Pennsylvania, where he followed the mercantile business, and died. One of his sons, A. D. Hagans, was sergeant-at-aims from '63 to '70 in the legislature of West Virginia, and another, Jared E., is en-

gaged in railroad business at Thornton. Mr. Hagans removed his store to a part of the present building used as a store by his son H. C., and kept it for many years. The following merchants opened stores after Hagans commenced: W. Carrol in Mrs. Scott's house; Samuel Rodeheaver, close to McKee's; Alex. G. Tremble, where Mrs. Cuppet lives; and J. Heatherington, W. Reynolds, A. D. Hagans, J. B. West, Allen Crane, W. Ridenour, John Hoffman (1847), N. R. Harding & Bro., Forman and Harding, Joseph H. Gibson, Dr. Frey & Co., J. C. McGrew, and some others have kept in different places in the town. At present Captain H. C. Hagans has a large and well filled establishment; and the firm of Morris and Wolf—T. J. Morris and A. Wolf—carry a good stock of goods.

Among the first physicians was Dr. Michaels, followed by Drs. Shaw, P. M. Sturgiss, I. Carr, A. S. Warder, B. Brooks, — Hustead, W. Peyton, J. W. Ramsey, and William Frey, a graduate of the Maryland University, 1856, who still remains. Dr. J. T. Fuller, a graduate of the Western Reserve Medical College, located here in 1877, and is still remaining. Dr. Ramsey was fond of a joke, and the following is told of him: An old gentleman blessed with rather a large mouth, called to have a back tooth extracted. Opening his mouth for the Doctor to get sight of the aching molar, Ramsey gravely remarked, "You need not open your mouth any wider; I propose to remain outside." The old man went off in a dudgeon, and the Doctor pocketed the joke instead of a fee.

Harrison Hagans was the first postmaster and was succeeded by J. H. O'Donavan, Thomas Scott, C. Walton, Jared Hagans, Dr. Frey, and A. D. Hagans, the present incumbent.

Samuel Rodafer kept the first hotel, where William McKee lives. W. Kimberly kept the Franklin House, and Hardin, John Scott, and Joseph Ritenour were landlords in Morris & Wolf's store building. Moses Silbaugh, Frank Wolf and J. Ash kept in the house occupied by Ash now as a residence;

and at present A. D. Hagans is proprietor of the Hagans House.

The first tannery was started by Samuel Rodafer, succeeded by Leech and Jared Hagans. Jonas Frankhouser now operates one, and another is carried on by William McKee, who came in 1850 from Pennsylvania, and has been elected continuously a justice from 1852 to 1880, and whose present term expires in 1884.

Brandonville was laid out in 1827, incorporated in 1858; and the members of the present town council are, C. S. Lathel (mayor), A. D. Hagans, J. Lieb, J. Clark, A. Michael and F. McKee. Recorder, Harry Frey; sergeant, Zer J. Hagans. The town is pleasantly situated 17 miles n. e. from the county-seat, with a hotel, two stores, two tanneries, two physicians, a fine church, and a good school building.

Captain H. C. Hagans and a partner built a fine steam flouring mill and foundry here a good many years ago, which burned down, and was a great loss to the place.

In 1852, Gen. Worth Lodge No. 113 I. O. of O. F. was started, but after the Rebellion went down. Colonel L. H. Jenkins was the last noble grand.

Bruceton (Bruceton Mills is the name of the postoffice) is situated on the waters of Big Sandy Creek, 16 miles northeast of the county-seat. It was once called Milford. The oldest house in the town is where S. W. Fearer lives. Samuel Morton in 1792 had a mill here, and a ferry was established adjoining the lands of Samuel Morton and William Conner. The mill was burned and a son of Morton, William, built a log mill and the oldest house. John Hoffman came in 1847-48, and opened the present mill, and named the place Bruceton, after his step-father, Bruce. Levi Fike was his miller. After many changes, Mr. Beeghley now owns the mill, and it is in the charge of S. W. Fearer, an experienced miller, formerly in charge of Nicola's and Clifton Mills. He is assisted by Peter Nedrow, whose father was killed by a log falling at a "raising," and was said to have been the

strongest man in the county. O. J. Stewart & Co. built a stone dam across the creek at this mill in 1879, and it is the only one ever built in the county.

John Wotring kept a store on the site of Armstrong's store, the building being now used as a grain house. Harding built the present building, and kept store, and was succeeded by Forman Bros., Hill & Harding, I. Armstrong & Co. In 1876, I. Armstrong & Son refitted the large three-story frame building and put in a large stock of merchandise. They afterwards bought the store building and the Bruceton House property, comprising a square in the "Queen City." Isaac Armstrong (father of I. Armstrong, who lives in Pennsylvania) married Frances Chidester, and came to near Bruceton. Two other of his sons, George and William, are still in Grant.

The Chidester building was used as a store by Leech for George Hagans, succeeded by Henry E. Cale, by J. M. Chidester & Co., and by Chidester & Smith, April, 1876; which last firm changed, in April, 1881, to Chidester Brcs., James M. Chidester and the Rev. T. Wesley Chidester. James M. Chidester was a member of Company H, 3d W. Va. Infantry, and was assessor for two terms and deputy sheriff twice. Scott Bros. occupy the building formerly used by A. S. Craig, and are erecting a new and commodious store-room at the bridge.

The Bruceton House was built by I. Armstrong, and has been kept by Dawson, Holmes, Horner and Bryte, successively. The Valley House was built by J. Bell, and is now kept by Moses Silbaugh.

A splendid iron bridge, built in 1877, spans the creek and connects the town.

William H. McGibbons commenced his present saddlery business here in April, 1855.

The Bruceton Woolen Factory was started by Hagans & Conner, who were succeeded by Hamilton & Zinn, by a Mr. Huffman, and purchased in 1849, by Charles Kantner, of Somerset County, Pensylvania, who, July 4, 1851, put in his factory the first stationary engine ever used in Preston.

People came from a distance to see the wonder. The factory is still run by this 10-horse engine. The capacity of the factory is 200 pounds of wool per day, with 2 looms, 2 spinners, and fulling and shearing apparati. Mr. Kantner served as magistrate from 1853 to 1861, was a member of the constitutional convention of 1872, a member of the house of delegates in 1873, and was an able worker for the charter of the Pennsylvania Line Railway along Sandy, and labored hard to secure its construction. He has now in operation a lime crushing machine—to crush lime instead of burning it. It is an invention that will be of great value to Preston.

We are indebted to Dr. M. S. Bryte for the following information of the physicians of Bruceton: Dr. Jesse Beerbower was born in Ohio, September 18, 1829; graduated at Keokuk Medical College and located in Bruceton in 1856. He was assistant surgeon of the 3d Maryland Regiment, and died at Huntsville in 1865. Dr. Francis Coke Shepherd was born in Cumberland County, Pa., January 18, 1829; graduated at Dickinson College and at Jefferson Medical School in 1854, and came to Bruceton in 1860. Dr. F. H. Patton came from Fayette County, Pa., in 1863, and the same year became assistant surgeon of the 12th W. Va. Infantry, and was confined as a prisoner in Libby for some time. Dr. Thomas B. Seamans was born in Fayette County, Pa., in 1845; graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1873, having located in Bruceton in 1869. He removed to Clarksburg in 1877, and is now in the West. Dr. J. H. Stumm, of Fayette County, Pa., of the Jefferson Medical College, was in Bruceton from 1872 till 1874. Dr. W. C. Jamison was born in Monongalia County in 1851; attended W. Va. University and Jefferson Medical College, and located in Bruceton in 1876. He read medicine with Dr. Brock. His brother, J. A. Jamison, is now a student in his office, preparing to attend lectures. Dr. Milton S. Bryte was born in Preston County in 1846; taught school, attended Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia in 1876-7, and received a certificate from the State Board of Health in 1881.

William H. Miller one of Squire Joseph N. Miller's 8 sons who are blacksmiths has been for twelve years proprietor of the old Harner blacksmith shop and is an excellent workman.

The postmasters of Bruceton have been C. Holmes, J. Hoffman, W. H. McGibbons, Samuel Wiles, Harding S. Forman, John Collins, A. C. Leach, Frank Wolf, Henry E. Cale, Marshall Chidester, William Armstrong and William Scott, the present incumbent.

Bruceton was incorporated March 24, 1853, and on June 4th, N. R. Harding, A. J. Bell and W. T. Inks were elected trustees, and on the 7th of June, J. H. Hoffman was appointed mayor and Colonel L. H. Jenkins sergeant. The present town council: Charles Kantner, mayor; W. H. McGibbons, recorder; Moses Silbaugh, sergeant; Dr. W. C. Jamison, George H. Armstrong, James M. Chidester, Charles Kaiser and the Rev. T. W. Chidester, councilmen.

Clifton Mills, a village located upon the waters of Big Sandy, 20 miles northeast from the county-seat, dates its age from about the year 1869, when Samuel Morton built a mill and a dwelling. Jacob Zimmerman kept the first small stock of goods, and was succeeded by David Frankhouser with a store, which he sold out to R. B. Waddel in 1877. Mr. Waddel was a militia captain and a quarter-master sergeant in the late war, and succeeded Frankhouser as postmaster in 1877; was commissioned a notary public May 10, 1881, and is now doing business in the firm of Waddel & Thomas. John Harader & Son also carry on a store here. The Evan Brothers bought the flouring-mill of David Frankhouser, and have attached steam to it. Mr. William Harader is building a steam saw-, planing- and flouring-mill at this The town derives its name from the postoffice established here about 1874, but it is often called "Slabtown." In 1875, the place was visited with the small-pox, there being over forty cases.

Greenville Furnace is four miles from Bruceton; was started, it is said, by Walter, commonly called "Wat," Car-

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lile on a barrel of watered whiskey, a box of home made tobacco, and a 10-dollar counterfeit note. He built the furnace about 1815, but having no capital, he could not run it. It passed into the hands of Miller & Frantz, and then to Fay, who failed. Next and last a Boston company, in 1836, with Harrison Hagans as president, ran it a short time. It is now torn down.

Valley Furnace was built about 1837, by Andrew Ochiltree and James Caldwell operated it between two and three years. Both these furnaces had ores sufficient, but long transportation and want of capital caused them to go down. Valley still stands.

Salt Well.—About 50 years ago a salt well was commenced above Bruceton. Fair indications of salt were present, but from some cause boring was suspended and never resumed since.

Oil Well.—Near Valley Furnace, in the northern part of the district, an oil well was bored after the Rebellion. It is thought that if the Pittsburgh company boring it had went deeper, they would have been successful in finding oil.

Cheat River Cavern, which is described in Chapter XVI, is in the western part of the district, and though unexplored as yet, is undoubtedly very large.

Mail Service. — Prior to 1822, there was no postoffice in the district. Harrison Hagans was the first postmaster. The postoffices now in the district are, Brandonville, Bruceton, Clifton Mills, and Glade Farms. The latter, 23 miles northeast from the county-seat, was established before Clifton Mills. Postmasters: Robert Sterling, H. Beerbower, and George Fearer, present incumbent. Mails are now daily from Cranberry to Bruceton, Brandonville, and Glade Farms; and weekly from Farmington, Pennsylvania, via Clifton Mills, to Brandonville.

Religious Denominations.—The first church was that of the Friends, between 1796 and 1812. The first members were John Willits, John Smith, Robert Forman and Samuel Morton, but the organization is now extinct.

The Methodist came next. The first class was the Rev. George Hagans and wife, William Michael and wife, Samuel Shaw and wife, and a few others, about 1819. The place of preaching was where Joseph Michael lives on Little Sandy Creek, and the class was in the Baltimore Conference. church now in Grant is composed of the Brandonville class. No. 1, Dr. William Frey, class-leader; Glade Farms class, No. 2. Colonel J. G. Crawford, leader; Laurel Run class, No. 4, George W. Walls, leader; Pisgah class, No. 5, Eli Walls, leader; Hopewell class No. 9, A. S. McNear, leader; Bruceton class, No. 10, the Rev. T. W. Chidester, leader, who was a minister on the Oakland Circuit one year, two years at St. George, three years at Grantsville, and a year on the Brandonville Circuit. An old frame building at Brandonville was the first M. E. Church built. It was succeeded by the present large brick church, dedicated on Christmas, 1850. early ministers were West, Tuder, McCall, Morrison, Baker, Swasey, Hamilton and Moses Titchenell. The Rev. F. G. W. Ford is the present pastor, succeeding the Rev. D. Cool. The parsonage is in Brandonville. Robinson Chapel is at Glade Farms. Its first members were the Robinsons, some of the Cuppets, the Beerbowers and others.

The Lutherans came in shortly after the Methodists. Dr. Philip Mockenhouse preached here about 1820, and after him Brown and Haus. Then George Nicksdorf, during whose time (about 1852 or '53) the brick church, Mt. Zion, was built. Its early members were the Frankhousers, Guthries and others. Succeeding Nicksdorf, came W. Shephardson, who once walked 29 miles through a snow-storm to fill an appointment at Willits. After him came J. A. Snyder, J. K. Melhern, John Tressler, —— Swingle, J. H. Cupp, S. Floyd, Smith, J. G. Gilbreath, and Summers, the present pastor. The parsonage is in Brandonville. St. Peter's Church was built in 1870 by Andrew Spindler, and its first members were the Haines and Spindlers.

The Baptist are next in order of age. About 30 years ago Hazel Run church was built, whose early pastors were J. M. Purinton, G. W. Hertzog, P. G. Sturgis and John Williams.

The German Baptists (Dunkards) came next, and built Salem Church, between 1847 and '50. Jacob Thomas was among the old preachers. Solomon Bucklew, James Ridenour (now in Ohio) and Flemon Barnes have succeeded him.

A union church was built at Clifton Mills in 1879.

The Disciples (Campbellites) own a church at Bruceton, where they have occasional preaching.

The Rev. Samuel Clawson, called the "wild man," used to preach in Grant. He was holding a meeting at Valley Furnace about 1838; one night a man came in and took his daughter from the "mourners' bench," and as he passed out, Clawson pointing to him, said, "The fowler of the Lord has done his duty and wounded the game, but the old hell hawk has gathered it up, and there he goes with it!" His preaching was of terror-inspiring character, and, as one of his hearers has described it, the congregation imagined when he preached about Hell, that they could hear the thunders roll, and see the forked lightnings flash, in the regions of the lost.

Schools.—A man by the name of Powel taught at the Glades in 1793. Benjamin Payton was an old and highly esteemed teacher, as also was Able Lodge. Among the old men living, who have quit teaching, is Robert Arnold, who came from Ireland in 1843, where he was on the ordinance survey in Dublin. Among the younger and very successful teachers who have left the profession, are Drs John S. Nedrow and M. S. Bryte.

The Brandon Academy was successfully conducted for many years. At present the district is divided into the Brandonville Independent District, whose school is taught this season (1881-2) by N. Canan, an experienced and popular teacher; and into eighteen sub-districts, among whose teachers for this year are F. P. Burke (at Bruceton), George Matthews, Miss Lizzie Abrahams, Isaac P. Martin, and Thaddeus Cun-

ningham, old and experienced teachers; and Joseph Scott, R. B. Hill, D. Scott, Mr. Frederick, W. Guseman, Mr. Wright, N. Thomas, A. W. Fearer, and John H. Cuppett.

Grant District contains 57,688 acres in farms. The value of her buildings is \$59,490; of land and buildings \$293,517. Tax (1881), State and county purposes, \$880.74; district road tax, \$263.61. The school levy is 35 cents on each \$100 for the teachers' fund, amounting to \$1006.39; and 10 cents for buildings, amounting to \$293.75.

Grant is 4th in order of size, 5th in order of population, 1st in order of designation, 4th in order of wealth, of the eight districts into which the county is now divided.

Clark Cuppett (son of Alpheus) was granted letters patent No. 236,308, on January 4, 1881, for an instrument "combining means of indicating distances and ascertaining the measurements of hights and plane surfaces without the aid of a surveyor's chain." This invention has been very favorably spoken of by many who have examined it.

Grant has sent three members to the legislature of West Virginia: Harrison Hagans, Charles Kantner, and Joseph H. Gibson, who came in 1847 from Shippensburg, Pa., and served in the house of delegates in 1867 and '69, and was the father of D. J. Gibson, of Newburg.

The following historical information was received too late for classification. Michael Teets settled near Brandonville about 1788, and one of his grandsons, Samuel A. Teets, lives near Cranesville; and another, Harrison Teets, near Cranberry. Valentine King settled at an early day on Laurel Run, and his sons were Thomas, Isaac, James and John. John was the father of Colonel W. H. King. John Deberry came about the same time, as also did Amos Glover, who married Drusilla, daughter of James Spurgin, and is the ancestor of all the Glovers of Preston County. Bowermaster's Mills, on Big Sandy, is the beginning of a town that

will be built up some day, as well as Hopewell, two miles north of Bruceton. One mile east of Mill Run W. D. Arthur has a store and a wintergreen distillery. It is a good location for a town.

Beckhorn Town was founded in Sandy Creek Glades, near Alpheus Cuppett's, on the Old Sandy Creek read, about 1790, but went down, and exists only in the memory of the old men.



HARRISON HAGANS.



HARRISON HAGANS.

The grandparents of the subject of this sketch were natives of Cape Cod, Massachusetts. His father, the Rev. George E. Hagans, was born in 1761, in Connecticut. His wife, Persis Eggleston, was born in Massachusetts. They removed to Vergennes, Vermont, where Harrison Hagans was born on the 17th of June, 1796. His father next removed to Indiana, but was on account of ill-health was advised by his physician to return East, and he came to Preston County about 1815, from Vincennes, and settled on Cheat River. The Rev. George E. Hagans's family was composed of twelve children when he left Vermont, of which only Zer, Harrison, Lovila, Harriet, Elish M., and David came with him to Preston. Lovila was married to Zalmon Ludington; Harriet became the wife of Samuel Rodeheaver; David died shortly after their arrival; Zer died a merchant at Petersburg, Pennsylvania; and Elisha M. died at Cincinnati. About 1818, the Rev. George Hagans settled at what is now Brandonville, accompanied by his son Harrison, who some time after their arrival married Jane, daughter of Captain Daniel McCollum, a man of some local note in those days. Harrison engaged successfully in the mercantile business, which he followed for many years. He was justice of the peace for many years, and was president of the Greenville Mining and Manufacturing Company in 1836 and '37, and built Virginia Furnace in 1852. He was identified with nearly every enterprise for the improvement of the county, being instrumental in securing the partially graded roads, called turnpikes. He was a member of the Wheeling convention of June, 1861. In 1863, he went by solicitation to Washington City, and aided greatly in influencing members of congress to vote for the admission of West Virginia as a State. In 1866-'7, he was a member of the West Virginia legislature. He came very near completing a successful mowing machine in 1846.

His family was composed of eight children, as follows: George M., a merchant at Morgantown, and at the time of his death president of a National bank at that place; William, now a justice of the peace in Grant; Captain H. C. Hagans, now engaged in merchandising at Brandonville, and is president of the county court; Lucian A., who was secretary of state under the reorganized government of Virginia, afterwards one of the proprietors of the Wheeling Intelligencer, and now a member of the well-known house of Rand. McNally & Co., of Chicago; J. Marshall, a member of the 43d congress, and reporter of the State supreme court of appeals, and as such author of Hagans's Reports, who married Sarah B., daughter of ex-Senator W. T. Willey of National reputation for ability, integrity and patriotism; Persis, wife of the Hon. James C. McGrew; Delia A., widow of the late Judge Edward C. Bunker; and Virginia E., wife of Dr. William Frey, of Brandonville.

Harrison Hagans died on the 7th of May, 1867, and was greatly missed in Preston County. He was a man of great natural ability, a mathematician and mechanic of splendid business qualifications. He was wonderfully energetic and quick of perception, and was liberal to a fault, kind to the poor, liberal to the cause of education, and a large contributor to the church. His life was one long round of usefulness, and his name is indelibly stamped on the history of the county for all time to come.

CHAPTER XVIII.

PLEASANT DISTRICT.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — INDIAN GRAVES AND TRAILS — EARLY SETTLEMENTS — ROADS — ORGANIZATIONS: MAGISTERIAL, TOWNSHIP, DISTRICT — TOWNS AND MAIL SERVICE — JOSEPHINE FURNACE — RIGG'S FACTORY — SALT AND OIL WELLS — RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS — SCHOOLS.

The territory of Pleasant was the second magisterial district into which Preston County was divided in 1852. And in 1863, in the order of division of the county as then made, it became without any change of boundaries, Pleasant Township. By a change of name merely, in 1873, it became Pleasant District.

It is bounded on the north by Grant District, on the east by Garrett County, Maryland, on the south by Portland District, and on the west it is separated from Valley District by Cheat River.

The eastern part of the district is mountainous, and the surface in great part rough and rocky, while high hills extend through the center, with elevated level tracts of land. In the western part a range of high hills border on Cheat, and the surface is broken and irregular, like that of the eastern part. The soil is a sandy loam in the valleys and on the chestnut ridges, while on the hill slopes it is more nearly a clay loam. The district throughout is well watered. Its streams afford good water-power and inviting facilities for mills and factories. Big Sandy and its affluent, Little Sandy, drain the northern and central part of the district. Muddy Creek, coming from Engle's, and draining a part of the Pine-

swamp region, through the Chidester settlement, by Morgan's Glade, past Josephine Furnace, and emptying into Cheat on the southwest, has many advantageous sites for manufacturing establishments, as also has Mill Run, a tributary in the east. Webster's Run, in the western part, a small stream named after James Webster, flows into Muddy Creek, and Beech and Soverns Glade runs into Cheat River. In the east, Elk Run, and Pine Run, so named from the superior quality of yellow pine found along it, form the Little Sandy.

Bituminous coal is found in all parts of the district. Along Mill Run and the Big and Little Sandies, veins of coal from 2 to 6 feet are found, and a few banks are operated. Limestone is found in most parts — of very good quality in the eastern end of the district. Iron-ore is abundant. Muddy Creek, said to have been so named from the beaver working along its banks and keeping it muddy, has scooped its channel through veins of iron-ore from its source to its mouth. Near William Chidester's there are three veins, one of which is said to be 5 or 6 feet in thickness. The water of Muddy Creek has a rapid descent which may account for its muddy appearance, but the outcropping, which shows abundance of minerals, might have something to do with the discoloration of the stream. Little Sandy is also rich in iron-ore.

A good supply of timber for all needed purposes remains. Oak and chestnut are most plentiful, with some hickory, walnut, cherry, poplar, ash, and at one day a considerable quantity of sugar.

The trees of the nursery generally grow stout and thrifty, and bear good fruit. Apples are a good crop, peaches an occasional crop; plums and pears are medium. The small fruits, such as currants, quinces, gooseberries, do well. Strawberries, raspberries and blackberries bear profusely. The grape, but little cultivated, promises fair.

The people are chiefly engaged in farming, and the ordinary grains of the market are raised. Wheat yields from 7 to 15 bushels per acre, corn from 25 to 50 bushels; oats from 15 to 40, and buckwheat is a never failing crop. Rye and barley

are not generally cultivated, though they do well. Potatoes are a certain crop. Grasses yield well. Good springs abound. Stock-raising is, or ought to be, a profitable business. Cattle, sheep and horses thrive and do well.

Deer, bear, panthers, wolves and smaller game were once here in countless numbers, the elk and buffalo in small numbers. Some few deer yet remain, and the wildcat is still found. The wild turkey still stalks throught the depth of the mountain-forest. Two porcupines have been killed in the district within the last ten years. Bees do well when properly cared for. Snakes—copperheads and rattlesnakes—were once numerous, but civilization drives them away before its uplifted clubs and flying missiles.

Indian Graves and Trails.—McCullough's Indian tra-

Indian Graves and Trails.—McCullough's Indian traders' path passed through by Morgan's Glade, the Metzler place, and on past Bruceton Mills. On the Metzler, or old Jacob Wolfe, farm, near McCullough's path, is the "Indian Spring," as the early settlers named it. A nice basin was cut in the slate, which has since been hewn out somewhat larger. Three Indian graves were found on the hill above Rigg's woolen mills, and on some other hills graves exist. Deberry Knob, in the east end, is said to have been a camping ground. Darts, arrows and Indian implements are numerous in the neighborhood. David Vansickle, twenty-five years ago, plowed up Indian relics near the Maryland line, which may be seen in the University museum at Morganown, labeled "Vansickle Indian Relics."

Early Settlements.—The settlement centers passing to-day from east to west, are Nicola's or Mill Run, Chidester's, Morgan's Glade, Conner's, Sugar Valley, Beach Run and Harmony Grove. It is a sheer impossibility to give a full and complete account of the early settlements. In early days there were no private records or common place books kept. The young man did not have a diary. He dug into the work, and made his mark on the rail-cut. The grave-yards give but a very imperfect list of names. Many were never honored with the rude entablature of rock, and on the

rough moss-covered stone slab the names of others can scarcely be deciphered. Jacob Wolfe settled as early as 1785 on the farm now owned by Ezekiel Feather, about one mile from Willey. After the murder of the Green family by the Indians, he moved to Wheeling, and remaining about five years, came back and bought of David Morgan the farm now owned by the Metzlers. He married Christina Wetzel, sister to the celebrated Lewis Wetzel. Jacob Wolfe had neighbors by the names of Isaac Barb, James Webster, Augustine Wolfe and Reuben Askins. His children were Jacob, John, George and Lewis, Sallie, Margaret, Eliza and Susan. Lewis Wolfe, now 81 years of age, makes his home with his son Josiah in Maryland. He was a successful hunter, and on one occasion, kneeling on the ground, shot three bucks without changing his position. Lewis's children living in Preston County are Eugenus, near Pleasant Hill, David and Mrs. Jefferson Cuppett, near Cranesville, all of Portland District.

A century ago five brothers by the name of Jenkins came to America from Wales. John Jenkins, the eldest of the five brothers, died in Preston. His son Jonathan was the father of Rolla and James Jenkins. William and Evan and another brother, the fourth, went West. Evan, the third, was the grandfather of the Confederate General Albert Gallatin Jenkins who was killed in the late war. Thomas, the fifth, married and lived in Preston. His children were Elizabeth Cushman, who died in Ohio; Susan Mason, Mary Reed, the Rev. Thomas, a minister in the Baptist Church; Rachel, who married Jacob Cale; the Rev. Absalom, Christian, John who lives at Harmony Grove; Delilah, Joseph and Evan. Evan married Hannah Graham, and lived to be 89 years of age. He was the father of John Jenkins, of Harmony Grove, and Jehu Jenkins, Esq., of Morgan's Glade, who has made such an acceptable justice of the peace that the people will not permit him to be put on the retired list. Hannah Sterling, the Squire's maternal grandmother, dressed the heads of the Corbleys who were killed in Green County, Pennsylvania.

Contemporaneous with the Jenkinses, Thomas Gibson set-

tled on the Cheat Hills. Thomas, James, Levi and Robert were his sons. James was the father of Levi, Zaccheus, Samuel, Thomas and the Rev. John F. Gibson, a minister in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Pennsylvania.

About one hundred years ago, Christian Cale left the blue Rhine in his native Fatherland, and, coming to America, finally made his home in Preston. His farm was the one now owned by Lewis Everly. Elizabeth, Mary, John and Jacob were his children. The two latter are both living and are over 90 years of age.

About 1790, Jacob Feather, who had served seven years in the Revolutionary War, came from Somerset County, Penna. He was originally from Germany, and married Mary Connery in Somerset County. He settled near where Lucian Martin now lives, but afterwards removed to the present neighborhood of Willey, in Portland District, less than a mile from Lick Run, where Adam Feather, father of the Rev. Jos. B. Feather, still "holds the fort." No doubt the young Feathers in his backwoods home were to him what feathers are in the pinions of the dove - supports in the upward flight toward heaven. Clustered around him these were certainly enough to keep his heart warm with love and affection --Sarah, Jane, and John, long a justice of the peace; Jacob, Ezekiel, Christopher, James, and Joseph, father of John H., of Sugar Valley, and J. Wesley and Michael E., of Cranesville: Mrs. Joseph Michaels, and Mrs. Ethbell Falkenstine of Garrett County, Maryland; and Adam and Eve among the older children.

Daniel Martin, originally from Germany, came from New Jersey after the Revolutionary War, in which he had served seven years, and settled near Valley Point. His children were Affa and Isaac, father of Isaac P., who has taught thirty-one terms of school; Mary, Jacob, Sarah and John.

Benjamin Jefferys came from below Cumberland, Maryland, after the close of the Revolutionary War, and settled near Mill Run. Thomas, William, Ruth, Rebecca, Ellen,

Joseph, and Edmund father of G. W., and Elisha, were his children.

Adam Zweyer came from Berks County, Pennsylvania, in 1793, and settled in the Jenkins settlement, near Muddy Creek. His family of children were John, who was a justice between 1844–54; Elizabeth, Thomas, Jacob, Eve, Kate, Ranile and Eliza.

William Benson and two sons were buried in a small graveyard on the farm cleared out by John Kelly, which is now owned by William M. Smith, as also was James Kelly, brother of John, a soldier of the War of 1812. John Kelly, the Revolutionary soldier mentioned above, emigrated to Muskingum County, Ohio, about 1811, and lived to be 103 years old. John and James, of the War of 1812, were brothers.

John G. Smith came from Turkeyfoot (now Confluence), Pennsylvania, about 1800, and settled on little Sandy, near the Scott farm, two miles from Bruceton. His children were Mary, who went to Indiana; Samuel M., previously mentioned, who married a Kelly, and lives on the farm opened up by William Benson; Eve, Eleanor, Nancy, Daniel, who went west; Jacob and William.

The place where John Kelly lived had been opened out by William Benson, who came from Winchester, Frederick County, Virginia, and is now owned by William M. Smith, who married a daughter of John Kelly's. William Benson came into what is now Preston County about 1795. He was a weaver by trade, and settled on the Smith farm before mentioned, near Beaver Creek or Little Sandy. His children were George, Sarah, Mary, John and James. The last named was born at Winchester in 1792, and was the father of Ezra D. Benson, one of the present magistrates in Portland District. James Benson was a soldier in the War of 1812. The Bensons are all good marksmen, and several of them are skillful gunsmiths.

It was in 1798 that Jacob Smith came from Somerset County, Pennsylvania, and settled where Martin L. Crane

now lives. His children were John, Frederick, Sophia, Eve, Barbara, Mary and Elizabeth. Frederick Smith, father of Jacob Smith, of the Craborchard, came when a boy with his father, Jacob Smith, from Somerset County, Pennsylvania. He died November 6, 1875, being over 97 years of age. We find an old land-warrant. son Christian went West. bearing date of survey November 7, 1798, which was issued to "Jacob Smith, assignee of George Lemmon," for 371 acres - "355 acres part thereof being granted unto him, the said George Lemmon, by patent bearing date the 27th day of September, 1785, and the residue being 16 acres is taken by virtue of Land Office Treasury Warrant No. 927." date of issue was December 14, 1802. This tract adjoined lands of Ezekiel Jones, William Biggs, Andrew Kirkpatrick and Thomas Chips, and the present owners are Martin L. Crane, Zaccheus Feather, and Jacob Smith,

About 1800, James Guthrie, originally from County Tyrone, Ireland, came from York County, Pennsylvania. After his father's death, he and his mother determined to emigrate to America, but she died while crossing the ocean. James's farm was that now occupied by Jeremiah Guthrie. His children were John, William, George, Isabel, Stephen, Rachael, James, Absalom and Alexander. Stephen is a hale old man of 80, and his children are Harrison, a physician in Minnesota; Absalom, of Missouri; Stephen, Jr.; Amy, wife of L. H. Frankhouser; Bell, wife of James Titherington; Mary, the deceased wife of I. M. Frankhouser; Kate, wife of Dr. Dunham; and Israel, of Ohio.

Leonard Cupp was a captain in the war of 1812, and came from Frederick County, Maryland, at an early day.

Michael Hartman came from Shenandoah County, Virginia, about 1805, and settled near Muddy Creek, on land patented by a man named Lutes, in 1797. He built the mill now owned by Calvin Crane on Lick Run, in Portland District. His children were Henry, of the Craborchard; John; George, of Cranesville; Harrison, William, Joseph, of the Crabor-

chard, Jacob, Washington, and Lydia, Margaret, Christina and Mary.

Jacob Nicola moved from Pennsylvania in 1810, to the northeastern part of the district. He raised three children; John, Jacob and Catharine. Jacob, of Mill Run, is the wellknown miller and millwright. Jacob, Sr., moved from Preston to Barbour County in 1851; returned in 1866, and died in 1874. Jacob Nicola, Jr., began merchandising at Fairview in 1866, and was elected a member of the school board in 1879. His lands at Mill Run were patented by Anthony Worley, not long after the close of the American Revolution.

Before the War of 1812, Peter Miller found a home on the hills near Cheat River, not far from Muddy Creek. children left to represent him were Susan, and John P., who died in 1880. John P. Miller was a justice of the peace. His children were William A., J. Allen, Mary Elizabeth, Elvira Sophia, James G., George W., Sarah Melissa, Josiah D., and Isaac N.

Shortly before the War of 1812, two brothers, David and Daniel Albright, came from York County, Pennsylvania. David served in that war. He settled first near Jacob Guseman's, and afterwards removed to Cheat River, near the mouth of Roaring Creek. His children were Lydia, Elizabeth, John, Henry, George, William, Mary, and Sarah. Daniel Albright settled in the Craborchard first, and some ten years later, about 1822, removed to the farm now owned by Michael Albright, near Cranesville. His children are Michael, Samuel, Susan, Daniel of Portland District, and Elizabeth.

Joseph Metheny settled on Cheat Hills about 1812. He was a justice of the peace for 20 years. His sons were Moses, Isaac, Israel, Aaron, and Absalom, the father of Joseph and Elijah C.

Jacob Guseman, son of Abraham Guseman, a soldier of the Revolutionary War, came to the site of King's Mill in 1812. He had followed the sea, being a sailor for three years, but came to anchor at that place, and ran a carding machine. In 1813, he left King's Mill, and bought a "corn cracker," as a mill was then termed, from a man named Burchinal, on Muddy Creek, not far farm the site of Rigg's factory, which Burchinal had bought from a man by the name of Pierson. The mill was known as "Pierson's corn cracker."

The mills in those early days were like the "mills of the gods" in one respect: they ground "slowly"; and in another respect unlike them; for they did not grind "exceeding fine." A story was told by old man Butler, of Pierson's corn cracker, that he came to mill one time when the mill was running, and a hound was in the meal trough licking up the meal as fast as it came down and barking up the spout for more.

Jacob Guseman married Christine Wolfe, in 1815, a cousin to Lewis and Martin Wetzel. Their children were: Mary, now living in the West; Susan, Sophia, Isaac, John W., Joseph, Abraham, Amos, who went west; and Jacob, who lives on the old homestead near the mill.

Ludwig Falkenstein (now often written Falkenstine) settled about one mile from Valley Point, in 1815. He was from Fayette County, Pennsylvania. He had eleven children. Lewis, one of his sons, had six children: William, Louisa, Mary, Ann, and Joseph, the father of Ethbell; and Jerome.

Thomas Liston came from Maryland and settled on Cheat Hills. Ebenezer, Abraham, Joseph, Mary, Elisha (father of Abraham and John T.), and Joseph (father of W. T.), were his family of children.

John Miller left Somerset County, Pennsylvania, came into Maryland, and then (April 1, 1816) settled where his son Solomon, who was born in 1803, now lives.

Eliphalet Chidester came into Preston about 1820, from Harper's Ferry, and located near the forks of Sandy. William McCoy Chidester, his son, came with him. William McCoy Chidester's children were named Isaac, Henry, William, Charlotte, Andrew, Elisha, John and Alpheus W. Elisha and John went West. Henry was the father of the Rev. T. W., James M., and Marshall W., who died October

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27, 1881, and was a merchant at Deer Park, and once a student at West Virginia University.

Clement Engle, in 1844, came to the site of Cranesville, and stopped with John Crane. He afterwards went to Crane's Mill, and then to Hauger's Mill.

About 1820, George Strawser came from Georgetown. Penna. Philip, Jacob, Joseph, and George were sons by his first wife, and Washington by his second.

Henry Deal came from Cambria County, Penna., about 1820, and cleared out the farm now owned by Isaac Layton. One of his sons, John, still lives in Pleasant.

Stephen Titchenell was born in 1775, in New Jersey: married Lydia Metheny in 1802, and came to the homestead farm in Pleasant that year. One of his sons was the Rev. Moses Titchenell, born in 1807, and licensed to preach in 1826 in the M. E. Church. He was a presiding elder in the West Virginia Conference for twelve years, and, in 1870, moved to Illinois, and died there May 23, 1877. Another of Stephen's sons is the Rev. Daniel Titchenell, of the U. B. Church, born in 1815, and now notary public and postmaster at Pleasant Hill, Portland District.

About 1818, George Strawser came from Georgetown, Pa. His sons were Philip, Jacob, Joseph and George by his first marriage and Washington by his second marriage.

John Smith, shortly after the Revolution, came with his sons Samuel, Aaron, Jonas and Joseph and settled in the "Sandy Creek Glades." Samuel's sons were Harvey, Asa and John T., the father of Prof. S. C., and Samuel H. Smith.

Abraham Otto came from Bedford County, Pa., about 1828. His children were John, Edmund (now of Garrett Co., Md.); Ezra, Herbert, and Ruffina, wife of Jehu Jenkins.

Joseph N. Miller was brought from Berks County, Pa., when a mere child, by his mother and aunt, to Somerset County, Pa., his father, Henry Miller, having died in Berks County. In 1831, he blacksmithed at Nicola's Mill (then

Fike's Mill); afterward, he removed to his present home in Morgan's Glade. Mr. Miller's eight sons are all good blacksmiths. Ami H. is in Eriel, Kannas, a good workman and a man of considerable wealth, Levi F., a Justice of the Peace, has a shop at Mill Run, William H., at Brucetor, Elisha J. at Cranberry, Benjamin A. C. at Cranesville, Hosea McC., at Buchtel, Athens County, Ohio Joseph J. has been foreman of the B. & O. R. R. blacksmith shops at Graften, for many years, and Jacob A follows his trade at Petroleum, Ritchie County. In 1861, Mr. Miller named his locality Morgan's Glade, because the Morgans had patented a thousand acres there. He built a store-house ten years ago, and has since kept a store and is postmaster.

Jacob, Philip, Michael, Conrad and Adam Ringer, brothers, came to Pleasant from Pennsylvania in 1832. William P. Ringer occupies the old Philip Ringer farm, which was patented July 12, 1787, and surveyed by William Pettijohn for William Deakins, May 28, 1785. It contains 450 acres. The Ringer mill property, owned by Joseph N. Miller, once the land of John Green, on the Brandonville and Kingwood Turnpike, one mile from Josephine Furnace.

About 1820, Samuel Crane built a mill near the present mill. About 1840, another mill was built on the site of Ringer's Mill by Jacob Crane. In 1853, Jeremiah Forquer commenced to build on its site, and, in 1855, Crane put the main works in it. Joseph N. Ringer bought the mill in 1864.

David Vansickle came in 1835 from Alleghany County, Maryland. He had three sons: John (the father of Charles T.), Isaac and David, now in Colorado.

Roads.—The old and main roads in the district were four: First, an old road from Kingwood to Brandonville, running mostly on the north side of Muddy Creek. Second, the Brandonville and Kingwood turnpike. Third, from Nicola's Mill to Cranesville. Fourth, the Brandonville and

Cranberry turnpike. The district is now pretty well supplied with good passable roads.

Organizations.—From 1818 to 1852, the territory of the district was not recognized as a distinct part of the county. During that period Benjamin Shaw. Nathan Metheney, John Kiney, David Graham, Smith Romine and Joseph Metheney were among the number of justices. James Metheny, John Zweyer, Smith Romine, David Graham, James Strahin and Henry Horr were constables.

In 1852, the territory of Pleasant was organized as the Second District, and Joseph N. Miller, David Graham, Samuel Deberry, and Jacob F. Martin were justices. Among the justices from 1852 to 1863, were David Graham, Smith Romine, James Metheney, Benjamin Conner, Samuel Deberry, Jesse Martin, W. H. Jenkins, Jehu Jenkins and John P. Miller.

On the 10th of July, 1863, a committee, of which Solomon Miller was a member, established the Second District by the name of Pleasant Township, and ran its boundary lines as follows: "Beginning at the mouth of Muddy Creek, on the east side of Cheat River, thence up said Creek with its meanders to a linn standing on the east side of said creek, hear Hagans's Furnace; thence W. 321/2 E. 548 p., to a stone in the old Cumberland road; thence N. 641 E. 622 p. crossing the Brandonville and Cranberry Summit turnpike to a white walnut standing near Wm. Kelly's dwelling-house; thence N. 7, W. 56 p. to a stone; thence N. 761, E. 210 p. to a white oak on the east side of the old Pineswamp road; thence with the meanders of said road to the old knotty white oak (now fallen); thence, leaving said road, N. 66, E. 56 p. to a stone standing about 10 poles above George Hartman's dwelling house; thence N. 88, E. 600 (crossing Muddy Creek) to a chestnut stump on the N. W. side of the Pineswamp Knob; thence N. 641, E. 500 p. to a maple on the west side of "Salt Block road;" thence with meanders of said road to a bridge across Salt Block Run; thence S. 61, E. 40 p. to a triple maple standing about 3 poles on the

south side of said run to the Maryland line; thence with said Maryland line north to a stone corner to Grant Township; thence reversing the lines of said township, to wit, running N. 64, W. 120 p. to a gum; thence N. 43, W. 169 p. to a chestnut standing at the mouth of Glover's lane; thence N. 81, W. 740 p. to Fike's Mill on a branch of Little Sandy Creek; thence down said creek with its meanders to its junction with Big Sandy Creek, thence down the last named creek with its meanders to its junction with Cheat River; thence up said river with its meanders to the place of beginning."

1869.—Abraham Liston, supervisor; Asa Metheny, over seer of poor; Benjamin Conner, treasurer; John Zweyer, school commissioner. John Jenkins and Henry Chidester inspectors; Wm. H. Jenkins and A. W. Conner, constables-

1870.—Herbert Otto, supervisor; Daniel H. Martin, constable; John H. Feather, clerk; Daniel Titchenell, overseer of poor; B. A. Conner, school commissioner; L. A. Martin and Jehu Jenkins, inspectors.

1871.—John Jenkins, supervisor; Henry Chidester, school commissioner; Zaccheus Feather, clerk; Conrad Ringer, overseer of poor; L. A. Martin and Zar Kelly, inspectors: Jacob Frankhouser and Jehu Jenkins, justices; Noah A. Titchenell and John S. Cupp, constables.

1872.—Jacob Frankhouser and Jehu Jenkins, justices: D. H. Martin and J. M. Feather, constables.

1876.—Jehu Jenkins and B. A. Conner, justices. Conner resigned in 1879, and John T. Liston was appointed his successor.

1880.—Levi F. Miller and Jehu Jenkins, justices; Preston Guthrie and J. W. Thomas, constables.

School Boards.— In 1864, Jehu Jenkins, Jacob F. Martin and Samuel Danks; Samuel Martin, secretary.

1865.—Henry E. Cale was elected secretary, William Conner treasurer, and Jesse Martin member of the board.

In 1866, Henry E Cale was reelected secretary, John H.

Feather, member, and Joseph Feather, treasurer.

In 1867 Samuel Danks was elected a member, John H. Feather, secretary and Hosea Metheny, treasurer.

In 1868, Isaac N. Forman, was elected secretary, John Zweyer, member and George E. Bishoff, treasurer.

In 1869, J. H. Feather, was elected secretary, and B. A. Conner, member.

In 1871, Jehu Jenkins was elected secretary, Jesse Martin, B. A. Conner and Samuel Crane, members.

1873.—B. A. Conner, Henry Chidester and G. A. Bishop were elected members, and Z. M. Feather, secretary.

1875.— Lucian A. Martin (president), Henry Chidester, B. A. Conner; Z. M. Feather, secretary.

1877.—Col. L. H. Jenkins (president), Stephen Guthrie, Jr., Everhart Liston; Wm. M. Wolf, secretary by appointment.

1879.—Lucian A. Martin (president), Alpheus McNear, W. C. Gibson, Jacob Nîcola, Wm. C. Ringer; D. J. Albright, appointed secretary.

1881.— L. A. Martin (president), W. C. Gibson, Wm. C. Ringer; D. J. Albright, secretary by appointment.

Villages and Mail Service.—The district contains only two small villages: Nicola's or Mill Run, in the extreme east, on Mill Run, and Mount Moriah, (Valley Point p. o.,) named by James Devall, on the Brandonville and Kingwood pike. It has three postoffices: Valley Point, 11 miles N. E., Mill Run, 16 miles N. E., and Morgan's Glade, 13 miles N. E. from Kingwood.

The present mill at Mill Run village, owned by Jacob Nicola, was built by Peter Fike, who also had the first carding mill in the district. A man by the name of Hazlett built the first house. Joseph N. Miller was the first blacksmith, and his son Levi F. Miller is the present blacksmith. In 1867, J. B. Nicola began merchandising, and one year later he and Peter Guthrie were partners. The latter sold his interest to John Guthrie. The new firm carried on business awhile, and Guthrie withdrew and commenced business for himself.

In January, 1881, Watson & Shaffer, of Cranberry, opened a store in Nicola's building. A joint stock company having been formed in May following, it bought the stock of Watson & Shaffer, they retaining a number of shares. Levi F. Miller is treasurer and M. F. Stuck clerk of the company, whose firm name is L. F. Miller & Co.

Mill Run postoffice was kept first at Fairview, about a mile away. The first postmaster was —— Harned; followed by M. White, A. J. Welch, and J. B. Nicola (from 1867 till 1876). The present postmaster is John Guthrie.

Fairview is the shadow of what was intended for a town. It had a store kept by White, the postmaster, and blacksmith shop by A. J. Welch.

Mount Moriah was so named in 1869, by James Devall. The name of the postoffice is Valley Point. Postmasters: John H. Feather, Jacob W. Thomas, and D. J. Albright, the energetic young merchant at the Cross Roads.

Daily mails are carried from Cranberry by Valley Point, to Brandonville. Joseph N. Miller is postmaster at Morgan's Glade; a daily mail from Cranberry. Muddy Creek post-office at Josephine Furnace, has been discontinued. Joseph N. Ringer was the postmaster.

Josephine Furnace.—This furnace was built in 1852–3 by Harrison Hagans, and called Virginia Furnace. George Maust was general manager, and after the Rebellion it did well. It was operated a while by one Lloyd, and then by Landon. In 1879, it was run by S. B. Patterson who called it Josephine Furnace. Its fires died out in 1880. Valuable specimens of the ores it used were furnished to us by Wiley C. Kerr, assistant book-keeper in 1880.

Rigg's Woolen Mills.—This factory was started in 1844 by John W. Rigg, on Muddy Creek, with 2 roll cards, 24 inches wide, 2 hand looms, and a 50-spindle jenny. In 1858, 2 looms were added, and a spinning machine of 120 spindles. In 1869, the new factory building, 3 stories high, was completed. In 1881, a 48 inch double-size carding machine was

added, of 416 spindles (self acting "mule" is the technical name), and 5 narrow and 4 broad looms. Good water power, and a 20-horse power engine, all the modern improved facilities for dyeing and finished manufacture of goods, make the factory one of the best in the State. Its capacity is 250 yards per day.

Mills. — Nicola's flouring, saw- and planing-mills (formerly Fike's) are on Mill Run; steam and water power. Gusemans flouring and saw-mill, owned by Jacob J. Guseman, was formerly the old Pierson Mill. A flouring and saw-mill, on Muddy Creek, near the Portland District line, was built in 1881 by John and David Wilhelm. There is a grist mill owned by E. M. Metheny, on Glade Run.

Samuel H. Smith has a tannery one and one half miles from Mill Run on the Crab Orchard road.

Oil Well.—Near the mouth of Muddy Creek, over 40 years ago, a salt well was put down 600 feet. The water was useless on account of the greasy fluid floating on its surface. On the 8th of June, 1881, John S. Walker, R. H. Holmes, James Brown, of Canada, and R. B. Frazer, of Pennsylvania, commenced boring some distance above the old salt well. Twenty-three feet from the surface, they passed through a 7-foot vein of bituminous coal, and 50 feet below the surface, a 10 foot vein of limestone. Various causes have delayed the sinking of the well. The prospects for a "strike" are said to be encouraging.

Religious Denominations.—The Methodist Episcopal is the principal denomination in Pleasant. The date of the first church organization is not known. The appendix to the class-book for the Jenkins settlement, now Harmony Grove, in 1833, gives the name of David Sharp and Jonathan E. Hyle as preachers; Jonathan Jenkins, class-leader; Alex. Shaw, stewart. In 1834, Absalom Brandon was class-leader, and John J. Smith, Jonathan Jenkins, Katharine Bryte, Hannah Jenkins, Drusilla Sterling, Robert and James Gibson,

Bartholomew Severe, Abraham Liston, Ebenezer Liston, Levi Gibson and John Jenkins were among the members.

In 1865, the Sugar Valley Society was organized by the Rev. W. C. Wilson; John H. Feather, class-leader; Guy A. Bishop, Stewart. The Rev. Robert Laughlin was succeeded by the Rev. J. B. Feather, who was instrumental in having a neat frame church built, near Morgan's Glade, called Centenary, which was dedicated in 1869. Among the class members were John D. Rigg, Sarah and Mary Rigg, L. A. Martin, Elisabeth Martin, Joseph N. Miller, Mary Miller, Jehu Jenkins, Raney Rodeheaver and Sallie Martin. The Rev. Messrs. J. P. Thatcher, George Crossfield, W. J. Sharps, J. G. Weaver and F. G. W. Ford have, in turns, up to date, served these classes.

In 1872, a union (M. E. and Lutheran) frame church was built at Sugar Valley.

Camp-meetings have been held on the Sugar Valley camp-ground.

In 1881, Levi Gibson was class-leader at Harmony Grove, John D. Rigg at Centenary, W. C. Ringer at Pleasant Valley, Philip B. Michael at Sugar Valley, and W. H. Smith at Spiker's school-house. This denomination has a nice frame church in the Chidester settlement.

The German Baptists have services in an old union church, near the Rev. Conrad Ringer's.

Schools.—The district has fifteen schools and the same number of frame buildings. The teachers for the winter term of 1881-2 were J. H. Feather, Parson B. Cuppett, Jared A. Feather, B. F. Wolfe, S. F. Ringer, James I. Laub, G. W. Bishop, J. J. Kelley, Milton S. Kessler, Dennis W. Frazee, W. H. Spiker, J. W. M. Guseman, Josiah Ditmore, Henry M. Hayden and Will F. Schroyer.

Pleasant contains 52,613 acres in farms. The value of buildings is \$40,905. Tax (1881) State and school purposes, \$668.88. The personal property in the district was

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(1880) \$80,910; land and buildings, \$221,737; town lots, \$765; total \$303,412.

In order of size Pleasant is fifth; in order of designation, second: in population seventh; and in wealth, the sixth district in the county.

CHAPTER XIX, PORTLAND DISTRICT,

RENERAL DESCRIPTION — INDIAN TRAILS AND GRAVES — EARLY SET-TLEMENTS: MURDER OF THE DUNKARDS, INDIAN DEPREDATIONS, BUTLER'S FORT — ROADS — ORGANIZATIONS: MAGISTERIAL, TOWN-

SHIP, DISTRICT — TOWNS — MAIL SERVICE — THE MURDERED PED-

DLER — RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS — SCHOOLS.

The territory of Portland was embraced in the Third (magisterial) District when Preston County was divided into such districts in 1852; and in 1863, in order of division of the county as then made, it became, with slight change of boundaries, Portland Township. By a change of designation merely in 1873, it became Portland District.

Portland District is bounded on the north by Pleasant, on the east by Maryland, on the south by Union, and is separated by Cheat River on the west from Kingwood. Laurel Hill Ridge runs N. E. and S. W. through the district. The larger portion of the district is west of the ridge in the Ligonier Valley, and is abundantly supplied with the Freeport veins of coal. It is drained by Roaring Creek, Dougherty's and Buffalo runs, tributaries of Cheat River. These streams break through the high Cheat River hills, full of coal, lime and a brown and red iron ore, pronounced hematite, and from appearance very rich, and from 5 to 10 feet thick at the mouth of Roaring Creek and on the west side of Doughtery's run and Spruce Creek.

The part of the district east of Laurel Hill Ridge is in the Cumberland Valley, and destitute of coal, but wonderfully rich in limestone, the 100-foot vein coming to the surface in many different places. It is drained by Salt Lick on the S. W., a tributary of Cheat, and on the east by the head waters of the Youghiogheny River. Heavy bodies of timber still remain in portions of the district, especially of pine in the pine swamp region along the Maryland line. Oak, pine, and chestnut are the leading kinds of timber, with considerable sugar and some poplar, beech and sycamore.

Wheat does well and averages from 7 to 15 bushels per acre. Corn, oats, rye and buckwheat yield well. Fruit, excepting peaches, does well. Grass is a fair crop, and cattle do well any place in the district.

The climate is somewhat colder in the eastern than in the western part of the district, on account of the east being a high elevated plain, extending from the mountain into Maryland.

Indian Trails and Graves. — The great Indian War-path, from the Ohio to the South Branch (Potomac), crossing the district, entering at Dunkard's Bottom, opposite the mouth of Morgau's Run, and following the river about two miles down, struck across the mountain, passing over Nettle Ridge, through the old Beatty and Freeland settlements, and between Willey and Cranberry, and crossed the Maryland line near the headwaters of Snowy Creek, south of Cranesville.

McCullough's traders' path passed southeasterly from Morgan's Glade through the southern part of the district; passing near Cranesville, crossed the Maryland line east of that village.

Two Indian graves are found on the Cranesville and Cranberry road, not far from Pleasant Hill p. o. Here a petrified potato was found in 1881, by Mrs. Daniel Titchenell, which may be seen in the University museum at Morgantown.

Early Settlements. — The first attempted settlement by white men in the county was in this district, about 1755, on the Dunkard Bottom, on the east side of Cheat, by well-in-

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tentioned but ill fated Dunkards—the Eckarlys, whose murder is described on page 22. Day's History of Pennsylvania, p. 414, asserts that their name was Eckerlin, that they were originally Catholics in Europe, that these three brothers had charge of the secular concerns of their society of Ephrata, and being suspected of ambitious designs to possess themselves of the title to the property of the society, they were expelled and went to the southwest part of Pennsylvania, from which they removed to Virginia. The society of Ephrata was a distinct sect from the Dunkards, although they descended from them.

The first permanent settlement in the district was made by Robert Butler, in 1773, on the east side of the Dunkard Bottom. He was a justice of the peace for many years, and a prominent man in the county in its early settlement. The next settlement was by Thomas Chips, in 1776, near the site of Willey p. o. In 1777, mention is made of the Powells, Brains and Dillons, and on April 11, 1778, more than 2 miles from where Cranberry now stands, occurred the murder of Brain and the capture of little Ben, his son. Jacob Mouser kept tavern on Dunkard Bottom at an early day. He was related to the Chips family, and was unpopular.

About 1800, Robert Beatty, a Revolutionary soldier, came from Hampshire County, Va, and located 3 miles from Kingwood on the Dille farm. His children all went West, except John, and are all dead but him. John was born in 1795, and married Rachel Bishop, daughter of John Bishop. Their sons were Thomas, Joseph, Alpheus, James, Henry C., George R., and William W.

February 2, 1787, William Ashby received a patent for 500 acres of land as the assignee of Jacob Vanmeter. J. F. Nordeck, P. C. Nordeck, John Vanverth and Samuel B. Crane now own this tract. J. F. Nordeck made the first improvement in the settlement on Laurel Run.

John Bishoff (now spelled Bishop) came about 1790, from Hagerstown, and settled on Elliott's Ridge. His children were Rachel, Henry, John, Joseph, Samuel, and William who died November 8, 1881, on the old home stead. Guy A. Bishop, of Pleasant District, is a son of William. John C. Crane lives on the old Bishop farm. He married Mollie, daughter of William Bishop.

Abner Messenger, a Revolutionary soldier, married Abagail Pike (a sister to Gen. Pike of the War of 1812), and came to the site of the Messenger settlement about 1800. He was the grandfather of James W. and Edmund Messenger.

William Dougherty, father of Jarvis, lived near what is now St. Joe, and owned a large amount of land. In 1794, William Elliott married Jane Dougherty, William's daughter. Abraham Elliott got land of Wm. Dougherty, his father inlaw, and settled where Elliott Crane now lives. Abraham had 11 children. Among this number were William, father of Dr. Felix Elliott; John, father of Captain William Elliott; Sarah, wife of Calvin Crane; Mary, wife of Jacob Crane; and Andrusilla, wife of Robert Forman.

Peter Wilhelm came into the wilds of Preston some time before 1800. Solomon, Peter, Jonathan and Catharine were his children.

About 1791, John Freeland came from near Baltimore. He married Polly McCann, of Fayette County, Pa. David and Benjamin were sons of his. He lived to be 94. David, born in 1809, has local fame as a hunter—supposes he has killed 600 deer in his time. Twice he has killed five in one day.

John Whetsell married Mary Troxall, and came from Frederick, Maryland, about 1800. He was the founder of the Whetsell settlement, 7 miles above the mouth of Muddy Creek. His sons were George, Peter, John, Conrad, Abraham and Michael who married a Felton. D. J. and John O. are Michael's sons.

John Felton came from England, and served as justice long enough to gain the sheriffalty. His son Henry was a distinguished hunter.

Among the fathers of the county was one who claimed that he exercised that mastery over serpents known as snake-

charming; and that he could handle snakes with impunity, The words of his charm were:

"As fire doth melt the wax,
And winds blow smoke away,
So in the presence of our Lord
The wicked shall decay."

The Shaws came from Ireland at an early day. Benjamin Shaw reached the sheriffalty by seniority of commission as a justice of the peace, and was among the first representatives of his county in the legislature of Virginia. Benjamin's children were Edgar, Celia and William (father of A. Staley Shaw), who married Sarah Gibbs, a sister of Nancy Gibbs, first wife of David Freeland, Sr. Samuel Shaw, brother of Benjamin, settled near Sandy Creek on the Scott farm. His son Alexander, who died in 1868, was the father of Benjamin, Joseph M., and George C., the dentist.

About 1800, Benjamin Trembly, from New Jersey, came to Turkey Foot, Somerset County, Pa., and in 1803, settled where George H. Trembly, his great-grandson, now lives. He married Eunice Remington. His children were Josiah, Ephraim, who died young; John, Mary and Sallie. He was drowned while coming from a fair at Morgantown.

John Rodeheaver, a saddler, came from Woodstock, Va., in 1807 and bought land from John Chips where his son, Col. John Rodeheaver, now lives. He married Mary Yagle, and their children were George, Christian, Samuel, Joseph, Isaac, David, William, and John (Colonel of the 104th regiment), and five daughters. John Rodeheaver, Sr., was justice of the peace, commissioner of revenue, and reached the sheriffalty. He started a tannery in 1829.

Dennis Jeffers came from Trenton, New Jersey, in early days. His son Abraham was a justice of the peace about 1836. Benjamin, another son, was in the legislature before 1825, and emigrated to Iowa, and died there.

Martin Ridenour, ancestor of the Rev. James Ridenour, came from Germany in 1820, and settled in Portland District.

Nicholas Lee, Sr., came from Maryland in 1824. He ca-

listed in the 3d Md. when 59 years of age, and served through the Rebellion. The name of Lee seems to be a martial name. Captain C. C. Lee is his son.

Toliver Childs, remembered for the magnitude of his imaginative tales, lived in a small cabin near Captain Lee's house.

Roads.—The old Burchinal road, from "Burchinal town," passed Crane's (Hartman's) mill, not far from Willey p. o., and on through the district southeasterly, crossing the Maryland line south of Cranesville, and extending to Westernport, Md.

The Brandonville mud pike, with the road to Aurora, makes a complete thoroughfare through the center from north to south. The old pike by Fairfax's Ferry and the pike which crosses the iron bridge at Albrightsville, enter the district, and running southeasterly unite about a mile west of Cranberry, from which point a road runs due east to Oakland.

The Cranesville road branches off from the Brandonville pike, 3 miles north of Cranberry. The Kingwood and Brandonville pike runs north through the northwestern part of the district.

On the old pike by Fairfax's Ferry were three tavern stands. At the Dunkard Bottom, Jacob Mouser kept, succeeded by Squire Wm. Price; next Abner Messenger; and third, Aaron Gibbs in the Green Glades.

Organization.—As the county was not districted until 1852, the territory of Portland was not organized as a distinct part of the county from 1818 till that year.

Among the number of old Justices were Robert Butler, Amos Roberts, Nathan Ashby, Abram Jeffers, William Mason, John Felton, John Rodeheaver (father of Col. John Rodeheaver), and John Feather, father of David O. and Harry Feather.

In 1852 the territory of Portland, in the main, was organized as the Third District. The magistrates that year were Buckner Fairfax, Abram Jeffers, David O. White and William T. Kelley.

On the 10th of July, 1863, a committee established the Third District by the name of Portland, in honor of the town of Portland in Maine, and ran its boundaries as follows: "Beginning at the East end of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad bridge across Cheat River, and running thence with the said railroad to a stone standing on the south side of the railroad near to and west of Henry Nine's dwellinghouse; thence, leaving said dwelling-house and running S. 62, E. 1060 perches, crossing (Salt Lick Creek) to pointers standing on the north side of an old road west of a large flat rock; thence with said road to a stone; thence leaving said road S. 12½, E. 248 p. to a stone in said road; still with said road (crossing Laurel Run) to a maple standing in the Maryland line on the north side of the said road last aforesaid; thence with said Maryland line to a triple maple corner to Pleasant Township; thence with the lines of said township reversed; to wit: N. 61, W. 40 p. to a bridge across Salt Block Run; thence with Salt Block road to a maple; thence S. 65½, W. 500 p. to chestnut stump; S. 88, W. 600 p. (crossing Muddy Creek) to a stone; thence S. 66, W. 56 to a knotty W. O. (now fallen) on the North side of the old Pineswamp road; thence with said road to a large white oak standing at the north side of said road; thence S. 761, W. 200 p. to a stone; thence S. 7, E. 56 p. to a white walnut near William Kelley's dwelling house; thence S. 641, N. W. 62 p. to a stone; S. 321, W. 548 p. to a linn on the east side of Muddy Creek; thence down said creek with its meanderings to its junction with Cheat River; thence up said river with the meanderings thereof to the place of beginning."

1869. - Edmund Messenger, supervisor; John Forman, clerk; William T. Kelley, school commissioner; Henry Hardesty and Joseph H. Everly, constables.

1870. — William T. Kelley, supervisor; Henry Beatty, school commissioner; Samuel Freeland, clerk; Benjamin Freeland and A. Perry Jenkins, inspectors of election.

1871.—Buckner Fairfax, supervisor; Philip Buckalew,

school commissioner; Samuel Freeland, clerk; David Freeland and William Hollen, inspectors; Thomas Gregg and William T. Kelley, justices; Ezra D. Benson and Henry Hardesty, constables.

1872. — Thomas Gregg and Albert G. Mason, justices; Ezra D. Benson and John W. Hill, constables.

1874.—E. D. Benson and Walter W. Worthington, justices.

1876. — Ezra D. Benson and John O. Whetsell, justices: George W. Fraley and Wm. H. Whetsell, constables.

1880. — W. A. McGinnis and Ezra D. Benson, justices: William M. Shaffer and William H. Whetsell, constables.

Towns.— Cranberry is situated at the junction of the Cranberry and Brandonville with the Kingwood and West Union turnpikes, on the B. & O. R. R., 137 miles east of Wheeling, 64 west of Cumberland, and 10 miles southeast of the county-seat. At the head of the celebrated "Green Glades" and the Salt Lick valley, it is 2500 feet above tide level. It was first Salt Lick Falls p. o., then Cranberry, after the name of the Railroad station, which was Cranberry Summit, because of the cranberry swamps, and the place being situated on the summit of the Laurel Hill range.

Somewhere about 1858, Eastern men, mostly from Maine, came in and made it a center of the shook trade in the State, and in honor of the metropolis of Maine, called it Portland.

In 1869, when Cranberry was a candidate for the county-seat, and before it had been decided to rebuild the court-house at Kingwood, ex-Senator Jones, in an earnest speech setting forth its advantages, called it "The Commercial Center," an apt appellation that has become almost another name of the town. Owing to the confusion caused by there being several Portlands in the Union, the council of the town decided to have the name changed to Cranberry, which was done by an act of the legislature passed January 19, 1882, which took effect April 20 following. The name of the post-office was changed to Cranberry two or three years before.

Cranberry was incorporated by the name of Portland on the 13th of March, 1860. The officers of the town were to be seven trustees and a sergeant, they composing the council. James W. Brown, M. F. Stuck and William Glover, or any two of them, were to hold the election, but there is no record to show who was elected at the first election. The present town council (1881) is as follows: C. W. Jackson, Mayor; Wm. A. McGinnis, Recorder; John P. Jones, C. W. Mayer, John W. Watson, Dr. R. R. Frey; Marshall W. Crane, Sergeant.

The first postoffice established was Salt Lick Falls, James C. McGrew, p. m.; then Cranberry, Elijah E. Alford p. m.; and in 1860, Portland, and Wm. B. Crane, p. m., succeeded by John P. Jones. J. W. Watson is the present postmaster.

The first physician was W. H. Ravenscraft; succeeded by Solomon Parsons, Dr. Sturgiss, Dr. Womack, Wm. Davis, and J. B. Fogle (1866), from Morgantown; Robert R. Frey, of Maryland, a graduate of the University of Md., and S. M. Scott. The last three are still resident and practicing.

The first house, about 1840, was a small log cabin built by Elijah Alford, which stood on the site now occupied by C. W. Jackson's store. When the railroad was projected, James C. McGrew opened a store in a building on the site of the depot, and was succeeded by James W. Brown, who then kept in the depot building. He was succeeded by the late Hamil ton Dorsey, and he by Joseph Adair, who is now the B. & O. R. R. Co.'s agent and a partner in the mercantile firm of W. H. Glover & Co. James W. Brown was the first station agent, succeeded by Dorsey, Adair, David Lovenstein, and Adair again. Among the older mercantile firms were Wm. B. Crane, J. M. Hartley, Nutter & Jones, Jones & Glover, Solomon Parsons, Benjamin Shaw, A. A. Perry & Co., J. D. Howe & Co., J. C. Painter & Co., and others.

Charles W. Jackson, a graduate of Eastman's Business College, opened out in the p. o. building, and in 1879 removed into his present commodious building, which he erected and associated with himself John H. Feather. A. A. Perry & Co. kept in the po. building, succeeded by Jones & Glover, 1876; Jackson, 1877; J. W. Watson and C. W. Jackson, 1879. J. W. Watson, 1880; J. W. Watson and R. M. Shaffer, who remain and are liberal advertisers. Mr. Watson came in 1870 from near Masontown, and has been secretary and president of the Portland District board of education.

Charles W. Mayer & Son opened out in their present building in 1877. M. F. Stuck has kept a store at several places in town. John Zotz has occupied his present store for seven years; P. A. Fox opened in April, 1881; and A. G. Mason, confectioner, about 1880.

Thornton White and J. R. Smoot opened in 1865, on Washington Street. White & Crane kept in the Crane Building from 1871 to '74, when White moved to his present place of business under the firm name of T. White & Son. His son L. P. White is very favorably known in the mercantile business as an excellent salesman of considerable experience.

Joshua Gibbs kept the first tavern in a house on the site of the Summit House, and was succeeded by the late George W. Fraley, Moses Silbaugh, Jacob Windel (in the upper house), and Charles Worthington, who built the Summit House, and opened it as a hotel and summer resort. Cranberry, owing to its location, its climate, picturesque scenery, and healthfulness, is a favorite summer resort for the denizens of the cities east and west.

James W. Brown built 40 feet square of the Jones building, and rented it to Aaron Freeland, who kept tavern, succeeded by John Dawson, Samuel F. Conner, and James Hill. The house was then bought by J. P. Jones and changed to a dwelling and store. Mathias F. Stuck opened the Washington House, which he still keeps. The Central House was opened by George E. Gutherie, and is now kept by Salathiel Posten. The railroad eating houses are two. Many years ago the one now kept by Amos Carroll was

opened by Mr. Slater, and kept several years by his widow. The other is owned by Mr. Shaw, who kept it for several years, succeeded by several persons. Mrs. Sallie Chidester, Mr. Shaw's daughter, is the present landlady.

W. A. McGinnis opened out his present harness making and saddling business in 1871.

In 1872, R. Bruce Fogle, of Morgantown, opened out a drug store.

Justice E. D. Benson, formerly of Bruceton, in 1867, opened his present gun and silversmithing establishment.

Wm. Groscup, about 1870, commenced wagon making here.

Wm. T., son of George W. Fraley, in 1870, opened out his blacksmith shop, in which he is now assisted by James W. Fraley.

In 1881, J. A. Garner started his tin establishment.

During this year, Guy A. Bishop, John P. Jones, and John M. Freeland began the erection of the "Mountain Mills." Bishop sold out and Jones and Freeland completed the mill, and now have it in successful operation. It is one of the most complete flouring mills in the State. It is four stories high, and cost about \$10,000. The machinery is propelled by a 35 horse power engine. It has five sets of the finest burrs, ten sets of elevators, with all modern improvements and conveniences. Novel arrangements for the extinguishing of fires, the invention of Mr. Jones, renders the mill always safe from fire.

The present tailor is John A. Peters, who has been here many years.

The M. E. Church at Cranberry, in 1853, enumerated 19 members, W. W. Eaton and John Francisco, pastors. The church has been served by the following ministers: 1854. Wm. Smith; 56, A. Bowers; 57, D. O. Stewart; 59, Ashford

Hall; 61, J. J. Dolliver; 63, Spencer King; 64, M. V. B. White; 66, Charles King; 67, J. M. Powell; 70, R. M. Wallace; 72, J. L. Clarke; 73, J. P. Thatcher; 75, J. A. Fullerton; 77, Benj. Ison; 79, H. C. Sanford; 80, S. C. Jones. The church was changed from the Morgantown to the Oakland district in 1879, in which year the latter district was erected. The present church was completed in 1868 or '69. The trustees were John P. Jones, George F. Huffman, E. M. Bartlett, J. B. Davis, W. Shaw and W. Golden.

The Presbyterian church was organized in 1869, and the present church building was erected in 1876.

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church was built in 1869. The first pastor was the Rev. James Meurer, succeeded by Rev. P. A. Boye, the present priest.

One of the founders of the town is Elisha J. Miller, a son of Squire Joseph N. Miller, who, in 1853, built his first shop where Charles W. Jackson now lives. Mr. Miller has built ten houses in the town, and has carried on wagon making and general blacksmithing in his present building since 1860.

In April, 1863, the town was visited by Col. Harmon's Confederate forces and Nutter & Jones's store, where White now keeps, was nearly cleaned out. Meat was thrown on the cellar floor, flour emptied and tramped over it, and molasses and oil let over the mass. Benj. Shaw, keeping in the Crane Building, fared but little better.

In 1864, John P. Jones built the board-walk now in front of his store, and his improvement was designated an obstruction by the town council, and he was notified to remove it; but did not obey.

The present fine school building was erected in 1877, and school opened in it under the supervision of Prof. L. W. Fike, who is now connected with the Clarksburg Academy.

Cranesville was named after John Crane, father of Smith Crane, Esq., who owned the adjacent lands. The first house

was built in 1854 by John W. Edwards. Dr. Daniel Fichtner, who came from Somerset County, Pa., built a number of houses.

The first store was kept by John Crane, succeeded by D. Fichtner & Son (Ben. A., now a physician at Confluence, Pa.). Afterwards stores were kept by N. B. Browning, F. Heermans & Co., W. G. Trickett, Dr. D. Fichtner and Mr. Enlow.

The first school was taught by A. J. Sanders,

The physicians have been Daniel Fichtner, and his son Dr. M. L. Fichtner, and P. H. Heermans.

B. A. C. Miller, son of Joseph N. Miller, is the blacksmith. Meshac A. Browning has a shook shop.

Samuel A. Teats is proprietor of the portable steam saw-mill.

On petition of J. W. Feather and others, a voting place was established at Cranesville July 3, 1878.

Charley Houseman, a tinker, was the first settler in the Pineswamp. He had a rude cabin on the line of Browning's and Feather's land, a few rods east of Cranesville, to the right of the road going east. Lewis Wolfe recollects, when a boy, of staying over night with him. The first clearing was done in 1812 by Jacob Wolfe, where M. E. Feather now lives; and about the same time Joseph Hilton made an opening near Solomon Wilhelm's. Henry Sines lived on the knoll just above M. E. Feather's.

Next came Henry Mattingly (grandfather of James H.), near Albright's mill; and Joseph Kelley, son-in law of Meshac Browning, and father of William T. Kelley, an old school teacher, who inherits his grandfather Browning's fondness for hunting.

The trade from the Sang Run neighborhood, on the Maryland side, is considerable since the two stores at Sang Run, kept by Rev. D. H. Friend and his brother the late Elijah Friend, have been discontinued.

The Cascade Fountain near Cranesville, on the lands of

Notley B. Browning, is a strong mineral spring whose waters have been kept six months and remained pure.

Why should not Cranesville become a summer resont—the Syracuse of Preston County? Here are pretty lawns and gentle meandering streams fringed with whispering pines. Here are cool and inviting shades, as classic as ever Greek, strolled through inter silvas Academica; groves grand and solemn as any that ever witnessed Druid rites and incantations; grand as any that ever wafted heavenward the fatherland songs of Christians collected together in campmeeting, buzzed with the harmless revelry of the jocund harvest-home, or echoed the boisterous hilarity of a basket picnic.

Rodamer's is at the west end of Rodamer's tunnel. The first store was kept by Rev. J. W. Hardesty in 1872, succeeded by T. W. Nine & Co, in 1875, and by T. W. Nine since 1880. Rodamer's postoffice was established in 1873, Rev. J. W. Hardesty (son of Joshua Hardesty, who came from Greene County, Pa., in 1832), postmaster till 1877, and T. W. Nine since that time.

- A Paper Town.—Burchinal town or "Mount Vernon," at the mouth of Rodeheaver's lane, a mile from Willey, was started by a man named Burchinal more than 60 years ago. Two houses and a school-house were built, and afterwards torn down.
- At. Joe.— Joseph G. Cressler and his son Joseph B. came from Pa., in 1871, and entered into partnership with the Rev. Joseph H. Gibson. They put up a large mill and built a number of dwelling houses, and their place took the name of St. Joe from the Christian names of the three preprietors. Joseph G. Cressler died March 17, 1874, and Mr. Gibson in 1875. On the night of December 19, 1878, the mill, uninsured, was burned to the ground. J. B. Cressler has partly rebuilt the mill. St. Joe is a long half mile above Albrightsville, on Cheat River, near the mouth of Dougherty's Run. It is a respectable rival of the latter place.

Albrightsville is 3 miles n. e. from Kingwood, and is named after David Albright, who originally owned the land round about. The first house was built by Wm. Morgan, who kept store, about 1840.

Connected with the store keeping business were afterwards Samuel Albright, Eugene Forquer, —— Daughterty and discontinued by —— Elliott.

The second house was put up by Wm. Mason, who also kept store. He was bought out by H. C. Ravenscraft about 1856, who was succeeded by Benj. Shaw and C. E. Vickery. Then came the names of Wm. Bishoff, succeeded by Wm. Albright, followed by his son, L. M. Albright at the present time.

Present blacksmith, Noah Metzler.

The school-house was built in 1854; Jacob Snyder, first teacher. William Mason teaching before the house was built.

On petition of Marshall Morgan and others, a voting place was established here Sept. 6, 1878.

Postmasters were Leonard Posten, Mrs. Henry Copeman, A. G. Mason, W. H. Bishoff, L. M. Albright, N. Metzler, and L. M. Albright again. For this list we are indebted to Squire A. G. Mason, of Cranberry. The postoffice is Albright's.

Mail Service.—16 miles n. e. of Kingwood Cranesville was established as a postoffice in 1855. Postmasters were John W. Edwards, Jacob S. Hyde, Charles Stone, A. J. Sanders, D. Fichtner, N. B. Browning, and D. Fichtner again.

Mails tri-weekly to and from Cranberry, and bi-weekly to and from Johnstown, Md.

Ten miles n. e. of Kingwood, Willey was established in 1860 named in honor of the Hon. W.T. Willey; and Joseph Bishoff, who had begun merchandizing some time previous was the first p. m. The second was John Forman, from 1868 till his death in 1876, who also carried on a store. Next Miss A. V. Forman became postmistress, and continued

the store under the name of A. V. Forman & Co.

Thirteen miles n. e. from Kingwood Pleasant Hill p. o. was established between Cranberry and Cranesville in 1875, Rev. Daniel Titchenell, who is a notary public, being p. m.

Seven miles n. e. of Kingwood, Tannery p. o., served by the daily mail from Morgan's Glade to Cranberry, was established in 1878, George H. Trembly, notary public, being p. m.

The Murdered Peddler.—Thursday evening, July 3, 1879, Barnabas Dewitt discovered a dead body in an advanced stage of decomposition, about 40 yards off the pike leading from Kingwood to Cranberry, in a dense thicket one mile east of Paugh's and three miles west of Cranberry. Justice E. D. Benson was informed, and a jury being empanneled, led by Mr. Dewitt, found the body on the evening of the 3rd of July. Bringing it to Cranberry, where the inquest was continued on the morning of the 4th. The body was interred in the cemetery, but the skull or head was retained.

The inquest developed some strange facts. A coat and the peddler's pack near by showed no evidences of exposure to the weather for the length of time the body had lain there. A memorandum had been mutilated and torn to pieces, some of the mutilated leaves found under a log close by. These leaves put together gave the names of several eastern firms. But, strangest of all, a letter was found of which an exact copy is here given:

Aprile 29. 1879.

I came hear a stranger among you for the purpis of put ing and end to my existanc. I came a grait Distance. For the last twenty years my mind has been effected more or less. Life has became to me a burdin. I am 65 years of Age. Without a family or home. I have livid a moral life but my history must and shall remain unriton you will find enclosed along with this pocket book the sum of over ten Dollars. if my body or Bones shall be discovered let some kind friend gather them together and Burrey them as thay ar. and reserve the money for his trouble. John Fictious.

\$11.35 in silver was found in his pocket-book. His skull was fractured in the back part, and the temporal bone was

broken in as if by a heavy blow back of the eye. A peddler, a man about 60 years of age and of medium size, stayed over night at one of the hotels in Cranberry, and on the morning of the 29th of April was seen going out the pike west of town. He stopped at Stump's, not far from the spot where the corpse was found, and inquired the way to Brandonville, When told he was on the wrong road, he inquired if he could not go past Albrightsville; and went ahead in the direction of that place. He was said to have had a consilerable sum of money on his person.

And thus the case rests. It remains to be seen whether the mysterious death and blank history of the said John Fictious "shall remain unriton" until revealed as a Judgment Day secret.

Chips's Cave.— Near Willey, on lands of Calvin Crane, near Roaring Creek, is a ledge of rocks known as Chips's Cave. "You can say nothing too bad of John Chips," was the current recommendation of Thomas Chips's son John. In the so-called cave John Chips was said to conceal stolen horses. James C. Feather found on his farm a grave containing human bones, which he supposes to be those of the negro alleged to have been murdered by John Chips.

David Trowbridge built a mill on Cheat in 1807. Butler's Mill was built next, whose site is now occupied by Col. W. H. King's mill. Henry Albright's steam mill is about 2 miles from Cranesville. His son A. S. Albright, who manages the store, was granted a patent on a car coupling.

Religious Denominations.— The Methodists (Episcopal) have a church building at Cranberry, Albrightsville and (with the Evangelicals) at Cranesville; they also have Salt Lick and Rodeheaver's Chapels. Trinity Church at Cranesville belong jointly to them and the Evangelicals. It is in Pleasant Hill circuit (formerly Brandonville), and has had the following ministers: C. J. Trippett, 1 year; J. G. Weaver, 2; J. W. Hess, 2; G. Rogers, 6 months; F. G. W. Ford, 3

years; J. B. Feather, 1881–2. Rodeheaver's Chapel, one mile from Willey, was built in 1874.

The Baptists have a frame church at Albrightsville. The earliest settlers of the neighborhood were Baptists. The present pastor is the Rev. Joseph Clarke.

The Lutherans have had an organization near Willey for about 65 years. Their present church was built during the Rebellion. The church at Cranesville was built in 1875, and dedicated in June, 1876. This congregation was organized on the first of September, 1857; John Forthman pastor, Jacob Wilhelm, Elder, John E. Otto, deacon, and members Henry Albright, Lewis Wetzel, and Eugenus Wolfe, Margaret, Rachel and Hannah Wolfe, Margaret and Elizabeth Albright, Wm., Catharine and Nancy Wilhelm. The pastors were the same that preached at Brandonville.

The Evangelical Association have a frame church (Salem) near Willey, built in 1870, and a frame church (Trinity) in Cranesville, in which they and the M. E. Church both worship. It was dedicated Sunday, November 1, 1874. Between it and the Lutheran church formerly stood the old brick Union (neighborhood) church, built in 1854. Dec. Fichtner and Michael Albright were the first members at Cranesville; Henry Bishoff and Jacob Smith, in the Craborchard, and John Metzler and Jacob Ringer were the first members at Morgan's Glade. The parsonage at Willey was bought in 1877. These churches are in Preston Circuit. The first ministers were the Rev. Jacob Hyde and Thomas Doyle. In 1866, Bookman; 1867, Shaffer; 1868, Stull; 1869, B F. Feight; 1870, E. B. Arthur; 1872, assisted by L. I. Baumgardner; 1873, H. S. Stoeffer; 1874, J. A. Dunlap. In 1875 Kingwood Circuit was formed from Preston Circuit. 1875 F. Bone was in charge; 1877 to 1880, Rev. G. W. White served the circuit. Mr. White was born in Kingwood in 1838. He was a soldier in the Rebellion, and in 1863-4 was detailed to make a survey of the roads and streams in Preston County to be used in constructing a military map of West Virginia. He left the M. E. Church and united with the Evangelical Association in 1871, and was licensed to preach the same year, assisting the Rev. Mr. Arthur two years, then two years in charge of Mineral Point Mission; two years in charge of Somerset Circuit, three years on Preston Circuit, and now stationed at Champion, Fayette County, Pa. In 1880, the Rev. R. D. Dalzell, the present pastor, was assigned to Preston Circuit.

The Dunkers, or German Baptists, have a white frame meeting house (Pleasant Grove) near the Rev. John M. Freeland's. They have preaching stations at numerous school-houses throughout the county.

A Presbyterian church was organized at Cranberry in 1869.

The United Brethren church have one regular minister, the Rev. W. R. Cunningham, and one local minister, the Rev. Daniel Titchenell, but no church building in the district.

School Boards.— 1869.— William T. Kelley, president, William Constable, Philip Buckalew; H. C. Beatty, secretary. 1873.—John P. Jones, president, William H. King, S. Deberry; John W. Watson, secretary.

1879.— J. W. Watson, president, J. G. L. Shaffer, R. P. Jackson, G. H. Trembly, J. W. Feather.

1881.—A Staley Shaw, president, R. P. Jackson, N. B. Browning; John W. Hill, secretary.

Portland District is divided into 22 school districts. The teachers for 1881–2 were J. S. Rogers, principal, Miss Lily Elliott, and Miss Dora Arnett, assistants (Cranberry): Joseph G. Arnold, Miss Jennie Graham (Albrightsville), D. H. Barker, J. Frank Rodeheaver (Willey), Charles T. Vansickle, Miss Elsey, M. A. Wolfe, Joseph A. Beatty, A. S. Teats, C. W. Forman, L. Beatty, S. W. Messenger, E. W. Whetsell, W. C. Jones, W. B. Freeland, Miss Jennie Braham, M. N. Snyder, C. M. Dunn, J. M. Nine and J. M. Michaels.

Portland District contains 65,454 acres in farms. Value of buildings, \$40,595; of land and buildings, \$256,623; value

of personal property, \$116,381; town lots, \$36,375; total (1880), \$409,599.

Portland is first in order of size, third in order of population, third in order of designation, fifth in order of wealth, of the eight districts into which the county is now divided.

CHAPTER XX.

UNION DISTRICT.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION—MOUNDS—INDIAN TRAILS—MYSTERIOUS DIGGINGS—EARLY SETTLEMENTS—ROADS: NORTHWESTERN TURNPIKE.

B. & O. R. R.—MILLS—ORGANIZATIONS: MAGISTERIAL, TOWNSHIP.

DISTRICT—TOWNS—MAIL SERVICE—SALT WELL—OIL WELLS—

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS—SCHOOLS.

When Preston County was divided in 1852, the territory of Union was embraced in the Fourth (magisterial) District. And in 1863, when district divisions of the county were succeeded by township divisions, the Fourth District, with very little change of boundaries, became Union Township. By a mere change of designation, made by the Constitution of 1872, it became Union District. It is bounded on the north by Portland District, on the east by Maryland, on the south by Tucker County, and on the west it is separated from Reno District by Cheat River.

Union is third in order of size, sixth in order of population. fourth in order of designation, seventh in order of wealth, of the eight districts into which the county is now divided.

The district lies within the Cumberland Valley. The central and eastern part is a high elevated plain. In the west, Cheat River cuts deep through this plain. The soil when properly cultivated yields fair crops of wheat, corn, rye, buckwheat, oats and barley. Wheat averages from 8 to 17 bushels per acre.

The high altitude of the district naturally causes some pretty cold weather in winter, but gives it a healthy climate, and makes it a desirable summer resort. The water is good

and abundant. Cheat River drains it on the west. One of its tributaries, Big Run, is in the north, and another, Wolf Creek, is in the southwest. They afford many good sites for saw and grist-mills. The headwaters of the Youghiogheny drain the eastern portion of the district.

Originally heavy forests covered large portions of the district, and yet large bodies of cak and chestnut remain, and considerable quantities of pine are to be found on the Cheat River hills.

No coal has yet been found and the geological structure of the district seems to indicate its absence, yet this loss is largely compensated by immense beds of limestone underlying large portions of its area, and in places are supposed to be 100 feet in thickness. The farmers by a liberal use of this lime can make their district very productive.

Iron ore exists in some parts but never has been developed. Fruit does well, especially the hardier varieties.

In early days, the panther, bear and wolf abounded, but about fifty years ago they disappeared, while some deer still remain.

Horses, cattle and sheep do well, and the district is well adapted to stock-raising.

Mounds.—On the farm of Andrew Goff, seven miles above Rowlesburg, were three mounds, about 25 feet long, and 15 feet high. Two of them have been torn down, and were found to be composed of earth, and stones taken from the river. The Indians had buried in the top of them. The bones in the bottom of them showed evidence of fire, and indicated that the dead were Moundbuilders and not Indians. Between these mounds and the river, several small stone furnaces were found, about six inches below the surface of the earth. They were round, and about 12 inches in diameter.

Indian Trails. — An Indian trail crossed the Maryland line at Goff's (now Chisholm's) mill, and keeping on, crossed

the Youghiogheny River, about 50 yards below the N. W. Turnpike; thence through the Wilt farm to Rhine Creek, where Isaac Shaffer's saw-mill stands; then past "Pringle's Camp," where Grady's pottery now is. From thence, with many small turns followed the waters of the Youghiogheny and came directly in front of where the old Lutheran Church stood in Carmel. It forked here, one branch going west of Major Stemple's, past Painter's mill, and by the south side of the high knob near Rowlesburg, striking Cheat at the mouth of Buffalo Creek; the other branch left Carmel and went south, crossing the N. W. Turnpike where J. H. Wotring lives, and continuing on to Cheat. Following the meanderings of that stream, it passed the Goff farm and went to the "Horse Shoe Bottom," in Tucker County.

Mysterious Diggings.—The early settlers found on a Spruce Creek hill, in the northwestern part of what is now Union District, six holes about 6 feet in diameter, and dug down 18 feet to a solid rock. In the creek below, they found the remains of a log dam. They supposed the Dunkards (the Eckarlys) had dug them in quest of gold and silver in 1754 or 55. A few years ago, one of these holes was put down 12 feet farther, and then abandoned. These holes are now nearly filled up. These diggings are south of the B. & O. R. R., and about 1½ miles west of "72," on the widow Burke's place.

In 1788, when Jacob Ridenour came to the Rich Hill farm, one fourth mile west of Aurora, he found potatoes growing and traces of what seemed to be an old fort.

Early Settlements.—The Pringles, Childers, and Lindsey, in 1761, founded their hunting-camp about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Aurora, at the mouth of Ryan's Creek, by a large rock. In 1783, an Ashby (the ancestor of Colonel Nathan Ashby) came from Maryland to the eastern part; and James Goff, a Revolutionary soldier, traded lands in Tucker County to a man by the name of Jordan, for the tract of land now owned by his grandson Andrew Goff. James Goff asserted that

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he was a descendant of the regicide, Judge Goffe, who helped sentence King Charles I. of England to death. James Goff came from Wales, and had several encounters with Indians in Tucker County, according to his grandson's account. His sons were Salathiel, George, Joseph, and Esau, who served in the war of 1812; Daniel, killed by a tree: Thomas, John C., and James J. (father of Andrew).

The Rev. John Stough from Hagerstown, Maryland, came out in 1786, and examined the country. The next year he returned with his own and three other families. They settled at Mt. Carmel, and called their little settlement "Salem." The Rev. John Stough's wife was Elizabeth Hogmire. They lived where Lloyd Lantz now resides. She died, and was buried in the yard; her husband preaching the funeral sermon. He afterward married a Troutman at Redstone, Pennsylvania, and went West. His son, Dr. Samuel Stough, born in 1793, is still living at Waterloo, Indiana.

Jacob Wagoner came with Stough. His wife was a Troxal. They lived near S. Wotring, Jr's. Their family, except one son, D. H., went West.

Jacob Diedrick and his wife, Magdalena Troxal, were the third family. They lived where Thomas Startzman resides. His wife dying, Jacob went to live with a Mr. Clouse; died and is buried on Deep Creek, Md. Of the fourth family we have no account.

In 1788, "the year of the second coming," the little pioneer colony was reinforced by the Stemples, Ridenours, Wotrings, Hershes, and others from Hagerstown. David, a son of Godfrey Stemple, married E. Catherine Rinehart. Their children were Elizabeth, Jacob, John, Maria, Catherine, Susan, Charlotte, and Major David Stemple. Mrs. Stemple was milking one evening, when a bear came into the yard to take their only pig. She grabbed an ax and killed Bruin, as he was in the act of carrying off the pig.

Jacob Ridenour married Susanna Stemple, and settled where the Rev. D. Beachy now lives. Their children were

John (father of David Ridenour), Margaret, Roxanna, Eve, David, Jacob, and Sarah.

John Wotring married a Troxal, and sold his farm in Maryland for a sum in Continental money, which became worthless, and he came out and settled where David Wotring now lives. He was the first tanner in the district. His son John was the first person buried in the Reformed M. E. Cemetery, and his grandaughter, Maria Shaffer, was the first one buried in the Lutheran Cemetery.

Frederick Harsh, or Hersh, had four sons: Frederick (who was a squire), Jacob, Andrew, and Daniel, very large, stout men, one of whom could lift 1100 pounds.

Youst Heck was single and was the first blacksmith. He came to the Rev. Stough in the field, one day with his gun in one hand and some game in the other; accompanied by a Miss Goff, who was carrying her moccasins in her hand. They desired to be married, then and there, and Stough complied with their request.

This settlement grew rapidly and was known as "Germany" or the German Settlement. In 1793, Adam Shaffer came from Germany and married Elizabeth Wotring. His sons were Teavolt, John, Adam, Jacob (father of J. H.), William, Daniel (father of Martin L. and Gustavus), Samuel and Abraham.

William Weills came from Hagerstown to Maple Run, settling where Abraham Weills now lives. He had 16 children, of whom 14 went West. Three of them, Absalom, Solomon and George, were ministers. Philo, one of the two children remaining, is now very old. He was a great hunter years ago. He made a wager with George Waltz, over 50 years ago, that whichever that season killed the most bear and deer was to take the pile of skins. When they came in on the appointed day, Weills had killed 37 bear and 126 deer; and Waltz, 26 bear and 137 deer.

Peter Carrico, and William Hebb, a Revolutionary soldier, came from Eastern Virginia in 1790. Carrico settled where

Gabriel Pulliam lives. Isaac Irvin, from New England, settled in the neighborhood of 72 the same year.

John Wheeler came from Lancaster Co., Pa., in 1800, to the site of Aurora. His wife was Catherine Gour. One of his sons was Squire William Wheeler, the father of Justice H. H. Wheeler, of Rowlesburg.

Eight years later, Ambrose Lipscomb, a Revolutionary soldier, settled on Cheat, near the Tucker County line.

John Bishoff (now mostly written Bishop) came in at an early day, but soon removed to Portland.

David Startzman came from Cumberland in 1818, and put a tannery on the Ridenour farm. In 1820, he bought the farm where Thomas Startzman now lives. He died in 1821. His brother Jacob came in 1822, and put up the present tannery. Jacob married Elizabeth Foster. His children were David, Henry (late Recorder and Clerk of the County Court of Preston County), Isaac, Mrs. Felix Elliott, Mrs. Shaffer, John, Luther, Annie, Thomas (who owns the tannery and is well conversant with the early history of the district), and William. The Startzman house is the oldest building in the district, and at which many noted men have stopped. It was built in 1794 by Jacob Diedrick.

Roads.—The oldest read was the one cut out along the Indian path from Mt. Carmel to Clarksburg. An old road ran from Mt. Carmel to the Dunkard Bottom. It crossed Salt Lick opposite Rowlesburg. Another old road crossed Stemple's Ridge, and led to Randolph (now Tucker) County. It was used till 1855. A road was opened in 1816 from Mt. Carmel to the "Green Glades" (now Cranberry), and used till 1854. The present roads are first the North Western Turnpike, entering the district on the east from Maryland. It was built during 1834, 5 and 6.

The first tavern in Union on this road, was the old Stonetavern, built about 1825, by Henry Grimes. It was opened as a tavern in 1841, and kept by George G. Hauser, Hiram Hanshaw and William H. Grimes. It is now the residence of

Christian Selders. The second tavern was the "Rising Sun," one half mile west of where Aurora stands. It was opened in 1838, and kept by Major David Stemple as a stage stand. It is now the tasteful private residence of Summers McCrum. The third tavern stand was about one and onehalf miles west of the "Rising Sun," kept by M. Wilt and his son-in law John H. Wotring. The fourth was about three and one half miles west of Wilt's, at the foot of the Wolf Creek mountain, and was kept, in 1839, by Frederick K. Ford, for drovers. He came from Hardy County, and was the father of D. K., the Rev. F. G. W. and ex-Sheriff Frank M. Ford. The fifth tayern stand was about two miles west of Ford's, at the Cheat River bridge, and was known as the "Caledonia," It was built in 1837, and opened in 1840, by Charles Hooton, as a stage stand, succeeded by Francis W. Deakins, who kept drovers. Hooton and Deakins were toll collectors for the bridge, collecting from \$400 to \$600 every four months.

The West Union and Morgantown turnpike was surveyed by J. M. Kuykendall in 1850, and opened in 1853-4. The ground was first broken on the Startzman hill.

The West Union and Gnatty Creek Turnpike was surveyed by Hayes, in 1853, and by Wm. Ewing in 1854, and opened in 1855. This road leads to St. George, and is one of the best graded mountain roads in the State.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad runs for 3 miles and 140 poles on the northern line of the district.

Mills.—The first mill was a log one, built by the Rev. John Stough, at the falls of Wolf Creek, about 1790. A spout placed under the falls carried the water on the wheel. Its capacity was three bushels of corn a day. The Old Goff Mill (now Chisholm's), owned and run by Martin L. Shaffer, east of Aurora, was next built by a Goff. Painter's Mill, in the northern part, was built by David Fries in 1852, owned by John Bishoff in 1858, and purchased by its present owner Isaac L. Painter, in 1869. Jacob S. Sanders's grist- and saw-

mill, to which is attached a cabinet and wood-working shop, is on Snowy Glade Creek, 5 miles from Cranberry.

Organizations.— In 1818, all the southern part of the district belonged to Randolph County. In 1828, a narrow strip was added to Preston, and in 1838 the remainder was annexed.

Frederick Hersh and Teavolt Shaffer were the first justices of the peace within its limits, of whom we have any account. John Stemple, Wm. Wheeler, John D. Stemple, Allen Shaffer, Wm. H. Grimes, and John C. Wotring were among the justices from 1818 to 1850.

In 1852, the territory of Union was organized into the Fourth (magisterial) District.

The list of magneterial officers elected from 1852 to 1863, as far as could be obtained, is as follows:

1852—Justices, Wm. H. Grimes, John A. Wotring, John D. Stemple and —— Shaffer; constables, no record.

1856 — no record.

1860 — Justices, Philo Weills, William Wheeler, and J. H. Shaffer; constables, no record.

On the 10th of July, 1863, a committee established the Fourth District as a township by the name of Union, and ran its boundary lines as follows:

"Beginning at a stone marked F X, called Lord Fairfax's stone, standing at the head of the North Branch of the Potomac River, an original corner to Maryland and Virginia; thence north (with the Maryland line) to a maple corner to Portland Township; thence with the lines of the last named township, to wit, with an old road (crossing Laurel Run) to a stone; thence leaving said road N. 12½, W. 248 poles to a stone at said road; thence with said road to pointers standing west of a large flat rock; thence leaving said road N. 62, W. 1060 poles to a stone on the south side of the B. & O. R. R., near to and west of Henry Nine's dwelling; thence with said railroad to the east end of the railroad bridge across Cheat River; thence up said river with its meanders to a

point opposite Muddy Run, in the Tucker County line; thence with two lines of said county, to wit, S. 68½, E. 10½ miles to a sugar and pine at the Black Fork of Cheat River; thence S. 36, E. 580 poles to the place of beginning."

Township officers from 1863 to 1872:

1864—School Board—Summers McCrum, president, David Stemple, W. L. Fansler.

1865—School Board—J. C. Wotring, S. B. Daniels, Elias Nine.

1867—School Board—J. H. Shaffer, Thos. Beatty, W. L. Fansler.

1869—Squire B. Daniels, treasurer; W. L. Fansler, supervisor; James H. Wilson, clerk; Jacob C. Foglesong, school commissioner; Isaac N. Grimes, constable; David Wotring and James Beatty, inspectors of elections; David Wotring, J. F. Porter and Perry McKinney, road surveyors; Elias Nine, overseer of the poor.

1870—W. H. Grimes, supervisor and justice of the peace, James H. Wilson, clerk. I. L. Painter and Henry Kight, school commissioners; David Wotring and James Beatty, inspectors of elections; David Wotring, road surveyor, district No. 1; ——, No. 2; Jacob Lantz, No. 3.

1871—W. H. Grimes, supervisor; John H. Lantz and David Stemple, school commissioners; A. M. Shaffer, clerk; Alpheus Messenger, overseer of poor; David Wotring and Squire B. Daniels, inspectors of elections; William H. Grimes and James H. Wilson, justices; John D. Stemple and W. L. Fansler, constables; Michael Boyles, surveyor of roads, precinct No. 1, Jacob Shaffer, No. 2, B. F. Dumire, No. 3.

In 1872, the name of Union Township was changed to that of Union District. The district officers elected from August 22, 1872, to December 31, 1881:

1872—Justices, James H. Wilson and Jacob Stemple; constables, Michael Boyles and Lewis Brady.

1873—School board, W. H. Grimes (president), I. L. Painter and G. W. Deakins; J. H. Wilson, secretary.

1875—School board, Dr. B. F. Latham (president), C. T. Lawton and W. L. Fansler; J. H. Wilson, secretary.

1876—Justices, I. L. Painter and James H. Shaffer; constables, Henry K. Wilt and W. L. Fansler.

1877—School board, Charles T. Lawton (president), J. F. Miller and W. L. Fansler; Page R. McCrum, secretary, succeeded by Lloyd L. McCrum.

1879—School board, Dr. J. Roy Arnett (president), Elias Nine, Lewis Bush, W. L. Fansler, Gabriel Pulliam; L. L. McCrum, secretary.

1880—Justices, Isaac L. Painter and Levi A. Shaffer; constables, Henry K. Wilt and L C. Shaffer

1881—School board, C. T. Lawton (president), L. S. Stemple, W. L. Fansler; Lloyd L. McCrum, secretary. Mr. McCrum graduated July 26, 1877, from Mt. Union College, Ohio. with the degree of A. B. and B. C. S.

The following road surveyors were appointed by the county court, October, 1881: Precinct No. 1, John A. Wilt; No. 2, William F. Wilt, No. 3, N. Bolyard; No. 4, Thomas Beatty; No. 5, Jacob Stemple; No. 6, Allen Forman.

Towns.—On the Fourth of July, 1793, Leonard Deakins and a man by the name of Eogmire laid out Mount Carmel, intending it for a county-seat. The first house stood back of Shaffer & Forman's store, and was built by a man of the name of Laidley. The town grew slowly, and the location of the turnpike south of it injured it some, but of late years it has commenced to build up. The first store was kept by William Sigler, near Samuel Wotring's; Shaffer & Grimes kept next, where Jesse Shaffer lives; then Shaffer & Son; next Painter & Wilson, from 1859 to 1863, where James H. Wilson deceased, resided. Painter & Co., in 1875, kept across from Wilson's house. In 1877, they sold to D. M. Wotring and Martin L. Shaffer, who built the present store building, and sold it in 1879, to Lloyd Shaffer and James Forman, now merchandizing as Shaffer & Forman.

The postoffice was established as Carmel in 1880; Mrs. E. Startzman, p. m.

A glove factory is operated here by I. W. Painter & Co. The Rev. D. W. Rector is manager of the factory. His youngest daughter, Miss Alice, an amiable and accomplished young lady, was killed in the terrible railroad collision at Thornton, September 8, 1881. James H. Wilson established his factory in 1860. Deer skins are brought from the Rocky Mountains and South America, and the gloves sent to all the eastern cities and to the West. Mr. Wilson was a member of the Legislature in 1874, and was chairman of three committees. He died March 11, 1882, at the age of 44. He was a native of Hampshire County.

Mount Carmel is 20 miles southeast from the court-house, and 9 miles south of Cranberry.

Aurora was laid out about 1840, by the name of West Union. It was the second of the Northwestern Turnpike towns, and is 20 miles southeast of the court house. Jacob Shaffer built the first house, which stood between the residence and store of Lloyd L. McCrum.

Summers McCrum came to West Union in 1846, from Tyler County; and in 1851, with I. W. Stalnaker, opened a store in a building where Ridenour's ware-house stands. This firm was succeeded in 1853, by S. McCrum, and later by Grimes & McCrum. McCrum & Grimes then did business on the opposite side of the street. John Shaffer kept several years where L. L. McCrum is now keeping.

David Ridenour and C. M. Bishop opened in 1863, in the present postoffice building, succeeded by David Ridenour; McCrum & Son, from 72 to 77; and D. Ridenour & Son, from 1880 to the present.

The present popular hotel was built by its landlord, Squire J. H. Shaffer, in 1872, and is large, well-fitted, and centrally located in the town. It is well known as a summer resort, whose guests, increasing every year, numbered 150 last season.

The physicians have been Drs. J. C. Kemble, I. L. C.

Carr, Felix Elliott, — Musser, J. H. Legge, and B. F. Latham. The present physicians are J. Roy Arnett and John D. Hall. Dr. Arnett was pronounced incurable of consumption, yet the climate here effected a cure.

A postoffice by the name of German Settlement was kept close to the town, about 1820; and then east of it in 1827, by Henry Grimes, succeeded by W. H. Grimes in 1841; and then in West Union by I. L. Painter; succeeded by D. M. Ridenour, the present p. m., under whom the name was changed to Aurora.

C. W. Dorsey, from Maryland, formerly of Kingwood, carries on a wagon making shop.

Mr. Riley has a magnificent trout basin here. Red sulphur springs are plenty, and a strong calybeate spring is three miles east of Aurora.

Eglon is a village situated 23 miles southeast from the court-house, and 11 miles from Oakland. Its age dates from the establishment of the postoffice, April 4, 1881, with George Giessman as p. m., and M. C. Feather, assistant p. m. The first store was established by A. C. Scheer, now A. C. Scheer & Co Frederick Felty opened his present store in 1878. On March 8, 1880, a cooperative store of 80 members was organized, and is conducted by P. S. Fike, treasurer and manager.

Mail Service.—In connection with Aurora and Mount Carmel, Painter's Mills, established in 1872, is a postoffice three miles from Aurora, on the road from Cranberry to Aurora; Isaac L. Painter, postmaster. Mr. Painter is a brother to Israel Painter, at Mount Carmel, and came from Hampshire County.

Horse Shoe Run p. o. is 25 miles southeast of the county-seat; established in 1856, A. Wotring, p. m.; succeeded by D. C Wotring in 1866.

The mail is carried tri-weekly from Cranberry to Aurora, via Painter's Mills and Mount Carmel. During the last two summer seasons, it has been carried daily. From Aurora,

the mail is carried tri-weekly to Eglon and Horse Shoe Run. Mails are also carried tri-weekly from Oakland, Md., by Horse Shoe Run, to Tucker County.

Salt Well. — In 1838 or '39, F. W. Deakins and John Hoy bored for salt, at the Cheat River bridge, on the Northwestern Turnpike They went down about 700 feet, and manufactured from five to seven bushels of salt per day. A greasy substance was struck near the bottom of the well, which it is supposed was oil. Hoy thought they had better turn it into a soap factory.

Oil Wells. — On Salt Lick Creek, near 72, on the farm of Nathan Tanner (asserted to be a relative of the noted fasting Dr. Tanner), a company, in 1880, bored for oil, going down 700 feet. A Pittsburgh company, a short distance away, bored another hole of about the same depth. No record could be obtained of these borings. Just before each company quit boring, it is asserted that they found good indications of oil.

Religious Denominations,—The Evangelical Lutheran is the oldest, and was founded by the Rev. John Stough and his followers in 1787. The first church built was a log structure, which burned down, and was succeeded by the present neat and tasteful building, erected in 1842, at Mt, Carmel, and called Salem. A German and English Lutheran church is near Eglon; built about 1858.

The first congregation at Salem was composed of Lutherans and German Reformed. The ministers in charge have been as follows: The Rev. John Stough till 1806, then John G. Butler; succeeded in 1811 by J. G. Lampreth; Frederick Heyer, 1820 to '24; followed by Martin Kibbler, when the first Sunday school was organized; George Haas from 1827 to '32; Daniel Heilig, 1836; in 1844, Heury Kempper, a German Reformed minister. From 1845 to '51, J. W. Sheperson; 1852 to 54, George Haines; 1856 to 61, John

H. Cupp; 1861 to 64, J. Winecoff; 1865 to 1873, John H. Cupp; 1874 to 75, P. H. Miller; and from June 3, 1876, the present pastor, W. Y. Cline.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was started between 1820 and 1825. The Rev. W. Hank, from Maryland, was here in 1822 or '23. From 1828 to 1831, the following ministers were here: J. H. Tacket, George McClaskey, and ——Athey of the Pittsburgh Conference. A fine church structure is at Aurora.

Two union (Methodist and Lutheran) churches are in the district. One is near Horse Shoe Run, built eight years ago, to succeed the old Texas (union) Church, which was built 25 years before. The other, the Centennial Union Chapel, built in 1876, is on the Beverly Turnpike, about 6 miles from Aurora.

The German Baptists organized in 1856, and erected a church in 1866 one mile from Eglon. This congregation is known as the German Settlement Congregation. The ministers in charge have been Benj. Beeghly, P. Musser, Samuel A. Fike, T. Musser, A. Fike, Samuel Pifer, Moses Fike, Dennis Weimer, James Liller, and Jesse Hays.

Amish Church, the Rev. D. Beachy; no church building.

Schools.—August Christian Whitehair, about 1790, was the pioneer teacher. Union is divided into 16 sub-school districts. The schools and teachers for the winter of 1881–82 were as follows:

No. 1 A. C. Moore.	No. 9 Hampton Werner.
2J. L. Pierce.	10W. H. Bowman.
3 E. H. Wince.	11Lloyd Heckart.
4W. B. Hutson.	12K. E. Burke.
5C. F. Trotter.	13John A. Dodge.
6J. O. Wetring.	14John D. Hooton.
7E. S. Felton.	15Miss Bowman.
8GodfreyFelton.	16B. H. Elsey.

Number 4 includes the town of Aurora.

Enumeration of pupils in the district between the ages of

6 and 21 (1882): Males—white, 395; females—white, 334, colored, 1; total, 720.

Wealth of the district (1880): 59,140 acres in farms, \$171,. 921; buildings, \$30,975; town lots, \$6,482; total real estate, \$209,378; personal property, \$72,105. Aggregate, \$281,483.

CHAPTER XXI.

VALLEY DISTRICT.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — INDIAN TRAILS — EARLY SETTLEMENTS:

MURDER OF FIELDS, ANECDOTE RELATED BY GENERAL WASHING—
TON TO COLONEL FAIRFAX — ROADS — MILLS — ORGANIZATIONS:

MAGISTERIAL, TOWNSHIP, DISTRICT — TOWNS — MAIL SERVICE—
ATTEMPTED FURNACE — THE GREAT SANDSTONE CAVE — DECKER'S

CREEK FALLS — THE POISON SPRING — MINERAL PAINT SPRING —
PROJECTED BAILWAY — RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS — SCHOOLS.

The territory of Valley was embraced in the Fifth (magisterial) District in 1852. In 1863, the Fifth District became, with but little change of boundaries, Valley Township, and by a change of designation merely, in 1872, it became Valley District.

Valley District lies in the western part of the county. It is bounded on the northeast by Grant District, on the east by Pleasant District, on the south by Kingwood and Lyon districts, and on the west and northwest by Monongalia County. It is 7th in size, 8th in order of population, 5th in order of designation, 8th in order of wealth, of the eight districts into which the county is now divided.

Valley District lies in the Ligonier Valley. Its extreme western part forms a portion of the eastern slope of Chestnut Ridge. The central and southern portions constitute a level tract, known as the "Monongalia Glades" until 1818, and since then as the "Preston Glades." Kane's Creek from the center, and Dillon's Creek from the south, flow through two productive and beautiful valleys, and empty their waters into Decker's Creek on the west, which breaks with impetuous

force through Chestnut Ridge, and mingle with the waters of the Monongahela, at Morgantown. On the east, Cheat River, with its tributaries, Bull Run in the north, and Laurel Run in the southeast, drains the district.

The soil is clay loam on the hills, and a heavy black loam on a clay sub-soil, in the west on the creek bottoms. About Reedsville it resembles western prairie soil, and when tilled with proper care, returns good crops of wheat which average between 8 to 15 bushels per acre. Potatoes yield large returns, and oats, barley, rye, buckwheat and corn do well. Grass is always a certain and large crop.

Some suppose that the western part of the district was once covered by a lake, but Prof. White and other geologists assert the contrary of this.

Timber of the best quality and in large quantities still remains. Oak, chestnut and poplar are the leading varieties, with considerable ash, sugar and hickory.

Coal, limestone and iron ore are abundant in all the district. The Upper Freeport coal vein varies from 4 to 10 feet throughout Valley. The 100-foot vein of limestone is in the northern part, and other veins abound. Iron ore of good quality exists in many places in large quantities, especially the red and brown hematites.

Fruit of all kinds, especially the hardier varieties, do well with proper attention.

The buffalo, bear, panther and wolf left many years back, and their place is supplied by the horse, the cow and the sheep, which thrive and do well, as the district is remarkably well adapted to stock raising.

Indian Trails.—The great War Path, running from the Ohio to the South Branch (of the Potomac), entered Valley from Monongalia, passed through the McMillen farm, by Masontown, then through Thomas Watson's farm, and north of Reedsville, running in some places with the present Morgantown and Kingwood turnpike. The Southern Branch left between Masontown and Reedsville and ran toward Glades.

ville. The Indians had a camping place on Thomas Watson's farm.

Early Settlements.—About 1776, a man by the name of Ashcraft had a hunting camp on the McMillen farm. It is asserted that Ashcraft had committed some crime and fied from justice. About this year, William Menear came from Germany, and took by settlement right 600 acres, near where Reedsville now stands. His sons were John, David, Lear and Samuel H.

George Zinn married Mary Sayler, and came to Valley District between 1780 and 1790. His children were Jacob (father of Major William B. Zinn), Michael, Samuel, John, William (father of Peter and Samuel of Reno District), Alexander and Peter.

Benjamin and Richard Fields came from Augusta County, Va., about 1777, and Richard, it is supposed, was the brother of Benjamin who was killed and scalped by Indians at a spring near where Edwin Watson now lives, described on page 37. Benjamin married Katy Howell, and settled in 1793, near Gladesville. One of his sons, Richard, was in the War of 1812, and another, Hiram, now a very old man, is still living in this district.

About 1789, Colonel John Fairfax came out and purchased of Phillip Doddridge a large tract of land, portions of which are now occupied by his sons George W. and F. B. F. Fairfax. He returned the next year. His father in law, Samuel Byrne, contemplated coming out, but died before starting; and his widow, Clarissa, and children, Samuel, Peyton, Sarah and Elizabeth, came out with Colonel Fairfax.

Colonel Fairfax told the following anecdete, related to him by General George Washington: In 1770, Washington visited southwestern Pennsylvania, and, on his return, stopped over night on the banks of the Youghiogheny, a short distance from the eastern boundary of Preston; and here he said was the first place in America that he ever saw perfect equality—where the children, the cats and the dogs ate out of the

same wooden dish filled with mush and sat on the floor.

Daniel Fortney came from France about 1790, and settled northwest of where Reedsville now stands. (His family is noticed in the biography of Neil J. Fortney.) At this time came Robert McMillen, a Revolutionary soldier. His son William married Sarah Cobun, and his grandsons, A. F. and E. W. McMillen, are school teachers of several years' experience.

James Cobun was born in 1746, on George's Creek, and married Saborah, daughter of Nathan and Sabrah Trader. He came from Morgantown about 1790 and patented 1000 acres where Masontown now stands, and settled where Waitman Hartley lives.

His children were Catharine, Jonathan, James, Arthur, Isaac and John. Isaac was born in 1786, and married Prudence Davis. Their children were James, George, Jacob, Simon, Benjamin, Isaac, Catharine, Charity and Sabina, widow of Samuel Graham. Sabrah Trader Cobun, in 1785, was called "the pretty squaw" by the Indians, on account of her beauty and her suit of heavy, long get black hair.

In 1790, William Watson, from Eastern Virginia, lived near the site of Masontown, having patented 300 acres of land. His wife was Elizabeth Patton. His children were John, David, Jacob, Nancy, Mary, Jane and William, who was a soldier of the war of 1812, and whose son Thomas Watson (the father of J. W. Watson of Cranberry) now resides on the home farm.

Thomas Brown was a soldier under Greene in the Revolutionary War. He came from Fauquier County, Va., in 1805, to where William Menear lives. His wife was Nancy Ash, and their children were Elizabeth, John B., George (father of Bailey Brown), Samuel, William now 87 years old, Mary A. and Thomas F.

Richard Pell married Elizabeth, sister of Colonel John Fairfax, and died when preparing to come out. His widow and children, Hezekiah, John, Fairfax, Nancy (wife of Henry Miller), and Martha came out in 1807.

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In 1813, Edward Hartley came from Fairmont, and lived in a cabin on the site of Hartley's store in Masontown. His wife was Margaret Miller. Their children were Calder, Malin, Henry, Amos, Elizabeth, Charlotte, Mary, Nancy, Jane, Emily, and Peter M. ex-justice of the peace and a leading member of the M. E. Church at Masontown. His son Edgar M. is a merchant at Masontown, and his sons S. C., L. E. and H. P., are merchants at Meyersdale, Penn., and his son J. M. is a merchant at Independence and Fairmont.

Squire Samuel Graham, who died lately, was a son of David Graham, who operated a powder mill, 100 years ago. His mother was Hannah Sterling, of Greene County, Pa., who dressed the heads of the Rev. John Corbley's family, who were wounded and killed by the Indians.

Joseph Liston (father of John A.), came about 1825.

Mills.—Major Wm. B. Zinn built the mill on Stony Run many years ago. It was then known as Zinn's (now William Brown's) Mill. Hardman's steam mill, built by Heidelberg, is on Kane's Creek. The Hartley mill, on Decker's Creek, near Masontown, was built in 1837 by Edward Hartley. It was bought by Coleman Hartley in 1880. Swingley's and Cornwell's mills are on Bull Run.

Roads.—The oldest road was the Morgantown and Winchester Road. It ran nearly on the route of the Kingwood and Morgantown Turnpike. The old Sears road ran from near Reedsville to the vicinity of Gladesville, intersecting the old Clarksburg Road. The present main roads are: The Kingwood and Morgantown Turnpike; the Ice's Ferry and Tunnelton Turnpike; the Reedsville and Independence road, by way of Zinn's (now Brown's) Mill; the Masontown and Cheat River road, by way of Fieldsville and Hacklebarney; and the Hacklebarney road to Kingwood.

On the Winchester and Morgantown road was the celebrated Reeder tavern. It was on the farm of John W. Guseman. Allen Martin, from Charles Co., Md., kept it from 1806 to 1809. His wife was a Maddix; and his son Aquila married

Mary Fairfax. Robert Reeder kept it in 1814; and here a company of soldiers, en route to Norfolk, received their orders to turn back.

Organizations.—From 1818 to 1852, the territory of Valley District was not recognized as a distinct part of the county. Colonel John Fairfax was the first justice of the peace within its limits, and Joseph Matthews is said to have been the second.

In 1852, the territory of Valley was organized into the Fifth (magisterial) District. Officers from 1852 to 1863:

Justices—Peter M. Hartley, David C. Miles, Isaiah Kirk and Barton Hawley; constables, no record or information obtainable.

1856-no record or information.

1860—Justices, G. W. Fairfax, Peter M. Hartley, Barton Hawley, Isaiah Kirk; constables, no record.

On the 10th of July, 1863, a committee, of which Peter M. Hartley was a member, established the territory of the Fifth District as a township by the name of Valley, and ran its boundary lines as follows:

"Beginning at the mouth of Laurel Run on the west side of Cheat River; thence up said run S. 50, W. 500 poles to the fork of said run; thence leaving the aforesaid run S. 42, W. 80 p. to a small chestnut; thence S. 81, W. 508 p. crossing said Laurel Run to pointers; thence S. 58, W. 54 to a hickory and pointers; thence S. 37, W. 176 p. to a pin oak; thence S. 81, W. 116 to a chestnut stump on a ridge above George Conley's dwelling house; thence S. 491, W. 310 p., crossing the Morgantown and Kingwood Turnpike to a stone standing in the old Clarksburg road, about 30 poles east from Benjamin Freeland's dwelling house; thence with the last named road to a small W. O. standing on the north side of said road; thence N. 83, W. 82 p. (passing north of Jordan's dwelling house) to a stone; thence west 230 p. to a W. O. standing at the west side of a new road; thence with said new road to a small chestnut on the south side of said new road, and in the Monongalia County line; thence with a line of the said county N. 36, E. crossing the Morgantown and Kingwood Turnpike and also the Ice's Ferry and Tunnelton Turnpike, to a point on Cheat River at the Beaver Hole, opposite a double chestnut, corner to Grant Township; thence up said river with its meanders to the place of beginning."

There is no record of the township officers elected from 1863 to 1868. The officers elected from 1869 to 1872 were as follows:

1869—Isaiah Kirk, supervisor; Henry L. Parks, town-ship clerk; Benjamin Freeland, overseer of the poor; Thomas J. Watson, treasurer; John B. Watson, school commissioner; Rawley Watson and Barton Hawley, inspectors of elections; John Orr, constable.

1870—Isaiah Kirk, supervisor; Thomas Watson, justice; Henry L. Parks, township clerk; William Elliott, school commissioner; Henry L. Parks, overseer of the poor; Rawley Watson and S. Waitman Hartley, inspectors of elections; Lindsey Huggins, surveyor of roads, precinct No. 1, and Sanford Watson, precinct No. 2.

1871—David Graham, supervisor; H. A. Hartley, school commissioner; H. L. Parks, clerk and overseer of the poor; Rawley Watson and G. W. Fairfax, inspectors of elections; Thomas Watson, justice; John D. Orr, constable.

In 1872, by the new Constitution, Valley Township was changed to Valley District. District officers elected from August 22, 1872, to December 31, 1881:

1872—Justice, David Graham; constable, John Taylor.

1873—School board—John W. Guseman (president), Isaiah Kirk, James Carroll; Thomas Watson, secretary.

1875—School board—John W. Guseman (president), Isaac J. Welton, James Carroll; Thomas Watson, secretary. 1876—Justices, Thomas Watson and David C. Zinn; con-

stables, William F. Menear and S. W. Hartley.

1877—School board—S. A. Dill (president), Peter M. Hartley, I. J. Welton; Thomas Watson, secretary.

1879—School board—John W. Guseman (president). D. L. Keifover, S. P. Elliott, I. J. Welton, James M. Carroll; Dr. John Hall, secretary.

1880—Justices, Isaac B. Cobun and Samuel A. Dill; con stables, William F. Menear and Wilber Posten, who resigned, and Thomas Watson was appointed in his place.

1881—School board—S. W. Hartley (president), J. S. Loar, D. C. Zinn; Dr. James A. Cox, secretary.

On October 4, 1881, the county court appointed the following road surveyors: Precinct No. 1, W. Hillon; No. 2, N. Posten; No. 3, J. W. Rodebaugh; No. 4, W. F. Menear; No. 5, Lindsey Huggins; No. 6, Alex. Squires; No. 7, W. C. Menear; No. 8, William Shaffer.

Towns.—Masontown is situated on the Ice's Ferry and Tunnelton turnpike, 9 miles northwest of the county-seat. The town is named after William Mason, its founder, who, in 1856, commenced the present store building, and afterwards secured a postoffice. He sold out, in 1859, to William Neff and George M. Hagans, who were succeeded, in 1861, by G. A. Heidleberg, who, in turn, sold the store to Peter M. Hartley. Mr. Hartley, however, did not commence business until 1869; and was succeeded by his son Edgar M. B. F. Cobun & Son erected their store-building in 1879.

William Mason was the first postmaster; succeeded by William Neff, I. W. Cobun, Peter M. Hartley, and the present incumbent Dr. J. A. Cox; assistant p. m., Wilbur Posten.

Dr. James A. Cox attended lectures at Jefferson College, and came from Monongalia County and located here in 1875. He is secretary of the district board of education.

D. H. Summers erected his steam sawing and planing mill in 1881, and Coleman Hartley's flouring mill is but half a mile away.

Reedsville is situated on the Kingwood and West Union turnpike (generally called the Kingwood and Morgantown turnpike), and is 8 miles northwest from the county seat— The town is named after its founder, James Reed, of Monongalia, previously of Berkeley County, Virginia, who, in 1827, bought a tract of land on which the larger part of the town stands. In 1855, J. C. McCarty built the first house, now occupied by Mr. Wheeler. In 1856, a store was opened by James C. McGrew and E. C. Bunker, succeeded by A. Elliott and J. M. Jeffers, George M. Hagans, G. A. Heidleberg, R. P. and Joseph Jackson, J. M. Hartley and Hagans, D. Wheeler and W. R. Loar, son of John Loar, in 1879.

The building burnt this year. D. Wheeler then built on its site, and John Wheeler opened a store, succeeded by G. W. John & Co., followed by the present firm of Watson Brothers. W. R. Loar kept a few goods that he saved from the fire, in Dr. Hall's office, until he built a store-room in which he kept until 1881, and which is now the residence of Claudius Wheeler. Heidelberg at the time of Jones's raid, hid a lot of goods in the woods, but the Confederates found them.

Dr. J. N. Lloyd was educated at Washington, Pa., and came in 1871. He has a large building, erected to accommodate eastern boarders, and opened as a hotel.

Dr. John D. Hall came in 1875, and removed to Kingwood in 1881.

The Reedsville steam flouring and saw-mill was built by Henry Reed, whose son Abraham still lives on the home farm. The mill was purchased, in 1880, by Albert Lemonits present owner, and moved from the creek to its present site.

Three miles from Masontown, at a cross roads, is the store of John M. Strahin, notary public; and it is proposed to call the place, if it ever grows into a village, Fieldsville, after Hiram Fields.

The surrounding country is known as Hacklebarney, so named by the eccentric Elihu Horton. When sheriff of Monongalia County, he got lost here, and his horse "Barney" was badly scratched by the low brush. Horton said "Barney" was badly hackled by the brush, and it was nothing but a "hackle-barney country."

Mail Service.—A tri-weekly mail runs from Masontown, via Reedsville, to Independence.

Attempted Furnace.—Scott and Dougherty, sometime about 1825, attempted the erection of a furnace at Decker's Creek Falls, which is referred to elsewhere.

The Great Sandstone Cave.—About three miles southwest of Masontown this cave is situated on lands of Reuben Morris. It is 17 feet high and 125 feet wide at the entrance. Roof and floor unite 255 feet from the mouth, where a narrow passage on the left opens into a large chamber, 10 feet high and over 80 feet long. H. H. Potter and Charles Mann crawled in a narrow descending passage from this, until Mann could see but could not get into a very large chamber ahead. A beautiful spring is in the center of the opening chamber.

Decker's Creek Falls.—These falls are about two miles from Masontown. The first fall is about 4 feet, the next about 12 feet, and the third, fourth and fifth are between 16 and 20 feet. It is a grand sight, when the waters of the creek are high and fall in volume over them. On the right bank of the creek, a high cliff of the great conglomerate rises over 50 feet above the falls, and on the left is a high steep hill or ridge. Below the falls which are in the great conglomerate, the water cuts down into the 100-foot vein of limestone.

The Poison Spring.—Two miles southwest of the Great Sandstone Cave is this deathful water. Mr. Harrison McKinney says that cattle drinking of the water died in spite of every remedy that could be used. The water is of a greenish hue, supposed to come of copper. The spring is now filled up to prevent man or beast from drinking of it.

Mineral Paint Spring.—About a mile from James M. Carroll's, and near Cheat River, out of a cliff of rocks in a deep hollow, bursts a reddish stream of water, which leaves a

heavy brown deposit where it falls. This deposit is used as a brown paint for buildings, with satisfactory results. In the same cliff, a spring makes deposits of what is asserted to be crude alum and copperas.

Projected Railway.—In 1881, the Morgantown & Iron Valley Railroad was projected. It was to pass through Valley (from Irondale), and extend, down Decker's Creek, to Morgantown. Valley voted a subscription of \$11,000 to the road. The route was surveyed, but nothing farther has been done. John W. Guseman is one of the directors of the road.

Religous Denominations.—In 1836, the Methodists, Presbyterians and Baptists occupied a frame house as a union church, near Sandford Watson's. The Methodists bought it that year. Their members, in 1830, were Isaac and Arthur Cobun and wives, James Posten and wife, Mrs. Hartley, Mrs. McMillen, and some others. The class was in the Uniontown District of the Pittsbugh Conference. In 1847, the West Virginia Conference was erected from the Pittsbugh Conference, and the class passed into the Morgantown District, of Kingwood Circuit, of the new conference.

The early ministers, from 1830, were John West, Isaac Boyd, Jemison, Coleman and Tolbert. The parsonage is in Masontown, and the present pastor is the Rev. G. W. Parriott.

The Presbyterians held a meeting at Samuel Graham's in 1833, about once a month. The Rev. C. B. Bristol, from Fairmont, preached. They worshiped in the union Church next, and in 1859 built their present church building. Among the old members were Samuel Graham and wife, Thomas Watson and wife, Edgar Hartley, Jacob Baker and wife, Gustavus Davis, and some others. The church was in the Redstone Presbytery, until West Virginia was organized as a State, when it passed into the West Virginia Presbytery.

The Methodist Protestants built a church about 35 years ago, near Thomas Fortney's; and a few years ago tore it

down and erected their present one on its site, called Bethlehem, which was the name of the first church. The Rev. I. Barnes is the pastor.

The Evangelical Association church has an organization at the school-house beyond J. M. Strahin's store.

The Baptists have an organization at the Reedsville schoolhouse.

The Rev. James L. Holmes, the missionary killed in China in 1861, was from Valley. His brother, M. G. Holmes, was consul at Chefu, and is now a merchant in Clarksburg.

Schools.—William Hambret was among one of the first school teachers (about 1798) in what is now Valley District. The district is divided into eleven school sub-districts. whose teachers for the winter of 1881-82, were as follows: No. 1....I. J. Jenkins.

2....S. A. Posten.

3.....H. D. Carroll.

4.....S. J. Posten.

5.... Miss Jennie Loar. 10... Dewit Gatewood.

No. 6....U. G. Hartley.

7....Milliard Pell.

8.... Miss Julia Fairfax.

9....J. S. Brown,

No. 11, A. F. McMillen.

The enumeration of youth in 1882, was: Whites—males, 289; females, 291; colored—males, 3; females, 1; total, 579.

In the district there are (1881) 33,456 acres in farms, assessed at \$125,964; land and buildings, \$156,714; personal property, \$65,975; town lots, \$2,023; aggregate, \$224,712.

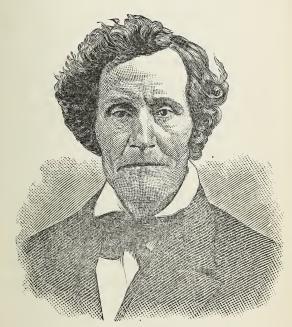
GENERAL BUCKNER FAIRFAX.

The subject of this sketch was a descendant of the celebrated Fairfax family, whose Lords were more or less noted for seven generations in the history of England, and a distant relative of Lord Fairfax of Virginia.

His father, Colonel John Fairfax, was the superintendent of Washington's Mount Vernon estates, and married Mary, daughter of Samuel Byrne, of Prince William County, and came about 1790 to near the site of Reedsville. He served as justice, sheriff and colonel of a militia regiment in Monongalia, and afterward in Preston County, which he also represented in the legislature of Virginia. He had five children by his marriage with Mary Byrne: George William, who died young; William, who died in Missouri; Buckner, the subject of this sketch; John, who was killed in a steamboat explosion on the Mississippi, and Mary, who married Aquila Martin. His wife died, and several years afterward he married the widow Nancy Franklin, daughter of Boucher Franklin, of Charles County, Md., and had three children: Franklin B. F., George Washington, and Elizabeth L.

Colonel John Fairfax was a man of fine personal appearance, over six feet in height; blue eyes, fair complexion, and dark hair. He was born December 10, 1763, and died December 22, 1843.

Buckner Fairfax, the third son of Colonel John Fairfax, was born March 30, 1798, in what is now Valley District. He was named Buckner after his maternal grandfather's family of that name. When but a boy he was noticed for being quiet, kind and generous, traits of character for which he was afterwards noted. He received only a practical business education; yet we find the first county court appointing him county surveyor when he was only twenty years of age, and directing him to run the dividing line between Preston and Monongalia counties. On March 30,



Gen. BUCKNER FAIRFAX.



1828, he married Miss Rebecca, daughter of James Parsons, of Romney, Virginia

He represented Preston County in the Virginia house of delegates in 1837–38, in 1846–7, and in 1851.

The general assembly of Virgina, in 1849, elected him General of the 10th Brigade, 3d Division, Virginia Militia, which he commanded until the militia went down.

He was justice of the peace for many years, and was a member of the celebrated county court of 1852.

Every enterprise for the advancement or developing of our county, enlisted his attention and received his support, while to aid his friends he often embarrassed himself. His long and useful life closed at the ripe age of 82, at Cranberry, where he died March 30, 1880. He was born, married, and died on the 30th day of the month of March. His children were James B., Mary C., Susan L., who married, October 19, 1852, John A. F. Martin, son of Aquila Martin; and who was Colonel of the 148th Regiment, Virginia Militia, deputy sheriff in 1843–47 and 1849, member of the legislature of Virginia in 1853 and 1855, and elected, in April, 1881, president of the board of directors of the asylum for the insane, Parthena G., wife of Charles E. Vickery; Sarah R.; and Ann Elizabeth, wife of Dr. S. M. Scott.

In the position of public servant, or in the capacity of a private citizen, General Buckner Fairfax was always kind and obliging. He lived a life of usefulness, and left behind him a character above reproach. In his death, Preston lost a useful citizen, and his life is a bright page in the history of the county.

CHAPTER XXII.

KINGWOOD DISTRICT.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — MOUNDS — INDIAN TRAIL — EARLY SETTLEMENTS — INDIAN INVASIONS — ROADS — ORGANIZATIONS: MAGISTERIAL, TOWNSHIP, DISTRICT — TOWNS — THE COUNTY SEAT — MILLS — MAIL SERVICE — PAINT BANK — KINGWOOD RAILWAY COMPANY — RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS — SCHOOLS.

The territory of Kingwood District was embraced, in 1852, in the Sixth (magisterial) District. In 1863, without change of boundaries, it became Kingwood Township; and in 1872, by change of designation, Kingwood District.

Kingwood is the only district not bounded by a State or county line. It is bounded on the north by Valley District; on the east it is separated by Cheat from Pleasant and Portland districts; on the south it is bounded by Reno District, and on the west by Lyon District.

In order of size Kingwood is sixth; in order of designation, sixth; in population fourth; and in wealth, the first district in the county.

The eastern part of the district lies in the Ligonier Valley, rising into high hills along Cheat River, while the western part lies in the Newburg Trough, elevated above and divided from the eastern part by the Preston County axis, which runs nearly through the center of the district.

Cheat River and its tributaries, Green's Run, Morgan's Run, Lick and Pringle's runs, drain the eastern part. The western part is drained by the headwaters of Three Forks

Creek. The soil under proper culture produces well. Oats, rye, corn, barley, buckwheat, potatoes, and wheat are raised. Wheat averages from 8 to 15 bushels per acre.

Heavy forests once covered the district, and to day large bodies of good timber remain. Oak, chestnut and poplar are still abundant, with considerable ash, sugar, beech and hickory.

Coal, limestone, and iron-ore are everywhere abundant, as the district lies in the Lower Coal and Lower Barren Measures. The celebrated Austen coking coal, an Upper Freeport vein, is very plentiful in the southern part of the district. Near Kingwood the Copeman bank is asserted to be Newburg or Pittsburgh seam. If it is, the top of the hill is in the Upper Measures. Limestone exists in large beds and the hematite iron-ore is abundant, being near 10 feet thick on Greene's Run, including partings. Close to some of the coal veins, a splendid article of fire-clav is found.

Fruit of all kinds does well in the district, especially apples. Horses, cattle and sheep are raised for profit. All the dangerous wild animals disappeared years ago, excepting a wild cat now and then along Cheat.

Mounds.—The mysterious Moundbuilder has left evidence of past inhabitation of the district in the Castle Farm interment mound, described on page 8.

Indian Trails.—The Great War Path struck the headwaters of Morgan's Run, and followed that stream to Cheat River. Every murder committed in the county by Indians, was on or near this path. Interesting Indian relics found on Sheriff Elisha M. Thomas's place can be seen in the West Virginia University museum, at Morgantown.

Early Settlements.—In 1773, William and Hugh Morgan settled on the west side of the Dunkard Bottom, on settlements rights which they patented in 1783. About 1778, Patrick Morgan, a son or brother of William Morgan, was killed by Indians, as described on page 31. Several different

accounts are given of this affair by persons who conversed with William Morgan's wife, Hannah, when she was over 100 years old. After Morgan's death, she married Michael Grady, and lived to be 110 years of age. William Morgan's son, William, was the father of David Morgan.

About 1781, a man by the name of Miller, with his two sons (little boys) was chased away from his camp-fire, not far from the site of Kingwood, by the Indians. One of these little boys, John Miller, afterwards married Catherine Neff. and came back about 1800. His brother William went to South Carolina. John Miller's children were Henry, David, Benjamin, Ann, Mary, and Sarah who married Christopher Jordon, and is still living.

John Greene came some time before 1788, and his murder by the Indians in their last invasion of the county is de scribed on page 223.

In the spring of 1790, James Brown (father of the Hon. William G. Brown) came near the site of Kingwood; and in 1800, he bought John Greene's tract of land of his heirs. Robert and Alexander Hawthorne, his wife's brothers, came with him, but they located four miles south of Morgantown.

About this time (1790), came Robert Beatty, George Gillaspy, Robert Butler, Peter Meredith, Abraham Darling, and the Balls.

Anthony Carroll served in the English Navy, and came at an early day close to Morgantown. He married a Miss Dunaway. They had two children, James and Mary. Mary married William Gordon, an ancestor of William G. Worley. Anthony Carroll and his son James settled one mile north of Kingwood about 1790, or '92. His son James married Sarah Vankirk. Their children were Anthony, William and Mary. The latter was the wife of Paul Herndon. William was the father of James H. Carrol, of Kingwood, and Amos Carroll, of Cranberry; and was a member of the Virginia legislature in 1834, 35, 36, 39 and 40.

The Darlings were here at about this time. A tradition asserts that a sister of William Darling was captured by

Indians on the Copeman farm, where they then lived.

Aaron Royse, the ancestor of the Royse family, died in 1818, at the age of 84. His son Hiram was the father of Moses, who married Rebecca, daughter of John Stonebridge in Winchester, and came from Somerset Co., Pa., in 1806, and bought the Darling farm, and died in 1861, at the age of 95. His children were Mary, Elizabeth, Moses, and John John was the father of Mrs. Henry Copeman, and died in 1863, at the age of 68 years.

Jacob Snyder came about 1800. His sons were Abraham! John, William, Jacob and Allen.

Jesse Trowbridge came in 1804, from the Shenandoal Valley.

The Taylors and Joseph Kelso were old settlers.

Philip Martin came from Rockingham Co., Va., between 1800 and 1805. He married Susan Funk. Their children were John, Jacob, Philip, David, Joseph (father of J. Ami Martin), and Samuel.

Roads.—The first road was the old Clarksburg road. Crossing Cheat River at the Fairfax Ferry, it passed over the site of Kingwood. On the site of the Court-house, was a favorite camping place. The road then ran nearly with the present Morgantown turnpike for about three miles, to the shook shop, where it lead toward Zinn's (now Brown's) mill. At the shook shop a road ran toward Morgantown, afterward called the Monongalia State road, or the old Morgantown road. An old road lead toward Evansville.

The present roads are: The Kingwood and West Union Turnpike, generally called the Morgantown Turnpike. Its construction cost \$327 per mile; and the Brandonville, Kingwood and Evansville Turnpike, generally called the Kingwood and Tunnelton Turnpike.

Organizations.—From 1818 to 1852, the territory of the district was not recognized as a distinct part of the county. In the latter year, the territory of Kingwood District was

1863, it was established as Kingwood Township. Its boundary lines are as follows: "Beginning at the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, at the big fill west of the big tunnel, thence N. 6, E. 600 p. to a W. O. on the east side of the Ice's Ferry and Tunnelton Tunnpike; thence with said turnpike to the old Clarksburg road, at Zinn's mill, in a line of Valley Township; thence with said Clarksburg road and the lines of the said township reversed, to a stone in said road about 30 p. east from Benjamin Freeland's dwelling house; thence leaving said road N. 495, E. 310 poles to a chestnut stump on a ridge above George Conley's dwelling house; thence N. 701, E. 116 p. to a Pin Oak; thence N. 37, E. 176 p. to a Hickory and Pointers; thence N. 58, E. 54 p. to Pointers; thence N. 81, E. 593 p. to a small Chestnut; thence N. 42, E. 80 p. to the fork of Laurel Run; thence down said run S 50, E. 500 p. to its junction with Cheat River; thence up said river with its meanders to a point on said river below the mouth of Buck Horn Run; thence west 300 p. to a little fill in the B. & O. R. R.; thence with said railroad to the place of beginning."

In 1872, under the new Constitution, Kingwood Township became, without any change of boundaries, Kingwood District.

From 1818 to 1852, Wm. Price, — McGee, William Sigler, E. M. Hagans, David Trowbridge, Reuben Morris, — Fortney, and John S. Murdock were among the justices of the peace.

Magisterial officers (1852 to 1863), as far as can be ascertained:

1852.—Justices, John S. Murdock, Israel Baldwin, Elisha M. Hagans, and Hezekiah Pell.

1856.—No record.

1860.—Justices, J. M. Godwin, Hezekiah Pell and J. S. Murdock.

Township officers from from 1863 to 1872:

1864.—Simeon Mattingly, treasurer; John Potter, clerk.

School Board - John S. Murdock (president), Robert McCafferty, H. C. Ravenscraft.

1866.—School Board of 1864 reelected; also treasurer and clerk.

1868.—John R. Stone, treasurer; John Potter, clerk. School board — H. C. Ravenscraft (president), B. S. Miller, J. M. Godwin.

1869.—James Gibson, supervisor; James H. Carroll, clerk; Joab G. Conner, overseer of poor; James E. Murdock, treasurer; M. F. Pell and Samuel Snyder, school commissioners; John S. Murdock and Robert McCafferty, inspec tors; John W. Miller and Richard Smith, constables; Charles B. Fawcett, surveyor of roads.

1870.- James Gibson, supervisor; J. Ami Martin, clerk: John R. Stone and Nathan Sypolt, constables; James Carroll, overseer of poor; James W. Parsons and Joshua H. Cale, inspectors; Richard Nugent, surveyor of roads in precinct No. 1; Joseph M. Shaw, No. 2; Charles C. Craig, No. 3; James McGee, No. 4. School board - M. F. Pell (president), H. C. Ravenscraft, Samuel Pell; John Potter, secretary, James E. Murdock, treasurer.

1871.—James W. Brown, supervisor; J. Ami Martin, clerk; Jesse Spahr, overseer of poor; H. Pell and H. C. Ravenscraft, inspectors; John S. Murdock and J. M. Godwin, justices; John R. Stone and N. H. Sypolt, constables. Road surveyors—precinct No. 1, Salathiel Posten; No. 2, J. H. Cale; No. 3, Brokenborough Stone; No. 4, Jesse T. McGianis.

District officers elected from August 22, 1872, to December 31, 1881:

1872—John S. Murdock and Joseph M. Shaw, justices; John R. Stone and Leroy Shaw, constables; school board— M. F. Pell (president), John J. Gocke, Samuel Snyder; John Potter, secretary.

1873—School board—James W. Brown (president), M. C. Gibson, Jacob Bower; John Potter, secretary.

1875—School board—M. F. Pell (president), Simeon

Mattingly, Thornton J. Bonafield; John Potter, secretary.

1876—Justices, John S. Muzdock and Eugene McGinnis; constables, James Carroll and P. F. Caufield.

1877—School board—R. W. Monroe (president), M. F. Pell, Simeon Mattingly; John Potter, secretary.

1879—School board—R. W. Monroe (president), M. F. Pell, Dr. Felix Elliott, J. Harmon McGinnis, Gustavus J. Shaffer; John Potter, secretary.

1880—Joseph M. Godwin and Gustavus J. Shaffer, justices; James Carroll and P. F. Caufield, constables.

1881—School board—Dr. W. R. Potter (president), James H. McGinnis, W. R. Shaffer, who resigned, and Dr. R. B. L. Trippett was appointed; John Potter, secretary.

Road surveyors appointed by the court October, 1881: Precinct No. 1, John D. Elliott; No. 2, J. W. B. Trowbridge; No. 3, Michael Lynch; No. 4, Henry Shaffer; No. 5, J. W. Parks; No. 6, W. C. Gibson; No. 7, W. Q. Britton; No. 8, Simeon Mattingly.

THE COUNTY SEAT.

Kingwood was established as a town of Monongalia County, Virginia, on the 23d of January, 1811, and was the first town established in the territory of Preston. On the 12th of March, 1853, it was made a town corporate by the name of "The Town of Kingwood." The officers were to consist of seven trustees and a sergeant. James C. McGrew, William G. Brown and Israel Baldwin, or any two of them, were appointed to hold the first election on the first Monday in June, 1853. The following board was elected and organized June 7, 1854: E. T. Brandon (president), John H. Bennett, Henry Startzman, Peter Barrick, John J. Brown; Edward C. Bunker, secretary.

The present members of the town council are: John Barton Payne, mayor, Dr. James H. Manown, D. Young Morris, Elisha Thomas, Draper C. Hughes, Peter Voltz, and John M. Crane, recorder. James E. Murdock is the town sergeant.

The first building used as a court house was John Robert's store room, in 1818, which stood on the site of Oliver Dunn's house. It was known as the Old Red Court-house. A log jail stood by it, which was burned by escaping prisoners. The next court-house was the old Stone Court-house, built about 1821, on the site of the present court-house, by Major Wm. B. Zinn. A stone jail was built by William Carroll and Jonathan Wilson. The court-house was about 30 by 40 feet, 2 stories high, with a clerk's room on the east end, 16 by 20 feet. The court room was in the lower story, while two stairways led to the upper story, which was divided into three jury rooms.

In 1856, James C. McGrew commenced the brick courthouse that was burned in 1869. A wind storm blew down the walls when partly erected, and the county authorities allowed him. \$1,500 additional to the contract price of \$8,000. When finished in 1857, it was one of the finest court-houses in the State. It was 70 by 47 feet, three stories high in front, and two stories in height running back. A flight of broad stairs led up to the court-room and clerks' offices in the second story. The third story was divided into three jury rooms. On the first floor was the court-house hall, entered by a side door. The stone jail was still used with it. While the Court house was building, court was held in Squire Price's house, which stood between the bank building and Mrs. Bunker's. This court-house was insured for \$8,000 when burned.

The present brick court house was built in 1869 and 70, by Robert McCafferty, S. W. Smalley and A. B. Menear, for \$11,000. The building is 70 by 47 feet, two stories high. Two clerks' offices, two fire-proof vaults, and the court-house hall are on the lower floor; and the court room and two jury rooms are on the upper floor.

The present brick jail was built in 18¶1 and 72 by Robert McCafferty and A. B. Menear, for the sum of \$6,165.

John Miller and Hugh Morgan principally owned the land upon which Kingwood is built. Miller kept a tavern

on John Williams's farm, and here sometime after 1800 John Roberts kept a small stock of goods. Some time about 1807. Conrad Sheets built a log cabin where the Hon. James C. McGrew's residence stands. Jacob Funk, who married a daughter of Hugh Morgan, built a log house opposite Elijah Shaffer's, and a man by the of Steel built the house occupied by F. Hines. They called their new town Kingwood, the name of the great camping-ground where the court-house John Miller, sometime later, probably 1810 or 11. built a store-room for John Roberts on the site of Oliver Dunn's house, and it was used for a court-house from 1818 to about 1822. Roberts had two clerks, one Wilson and then McDaniels. A hatter by the name of Fulton (who, it is asserted, was a brother of Robert Fulton), about 1809 or 10, lived in the Steel house. About 1810, Jacob Funk started the Spahr tannery, and sold it in 1813 to William Sigler, a reed maker by trade, and a native of Loudon Co., Va. He served as one of the first members of the legislature, was a justice of the peace, a colonel of the militia, commissioner of the revenue, and recorder. He was born in 1783, and died 1864. His last wife, Nancy, who was a Sterling, died in 1882.

Somewhere between 1810 and 18, Thomas McGee kept a store, and Ann Steel a tavern.

In 1818, Kingwood was selected as the county-seat of Preston, and began to improve. Squire William Price built the Herndon Hotel some time before 1812, and kept it several years. He sold it to S. P. Herndon, who married Mary Carroll, and built an addition to the house. He was succeeded by James M. Carroll. He by Herndon's widow; and after her death, Miss Kate Carroll kept it. She was married, in 1882, to Dr. J. C. Kemble, and the hotel discontinued.

The Union hotel was built by William Johnson about 1824 or 25. Johnson's wife was Phœbe Bonnel, and the hotel was named by Smith Crane, who painted the sign. He was followed by his son, Wick Johnson, Thomas McGee, Da-

vid McGee, Adam Bishop (1843), George R. Calvert, Rev. John Regar, James Caldwell, Ephraim McClaskey, Hiram Vankirk, John S. Murdock, C. H. Corbin, John T. Neff, and White and Shaffer (1881–2). The house is now vacant.

William Carroll built the next hotel, a frame house, about 1829, and was succeeded by James Caldwell, E. T. Brandon who built an addition, Benjamin Gilbert, Walter W. Worthington, who was keeping when it burned down, January 6th, 1867.

Wm. Price kept the next hotel in a house between the bank building and Mrs. Bunker's, and was followed by John S. Graham prior to 1849. John R. Stone kept where Charles W. Faucett lives, about 1855.

The Exchange Hotel was built in 1869 by John S. Brown, and sold to H. Zotz, who died before finishing it, in 1870. John T. Neff first kept it, and was succeeded by James L. Stone, and by the present landlord, Peter R. Smith.

C. H. Corbin opened the Corbin House in 1872, which he enlarged in 1875-6 to its present size.

In 1822, William Johnson was postmaster; and the next of whom any account can be obtained, was Israel Baldwin in 1841, who was succeeded in 1845 by James H. Carroll, and afterward by James Caldwell, Eugene T. Brandon, Joseph Jackson, Wm. H. Grimes, James W. Parks, William C. McGrew and Jacob Basnett. The present postmaster is Capt. Joseph M. Godwin, appointed in 1878. Capt. Godwin was born in 1827. His father, Robert Godwin, came from Cumberland, Md., in 1802, and his mother, Mary Barb, was from Shenandoah, Va. Joseph M. Godwin was Captain of Company O, 6th W. Va. Infantry. He was captured and paroled at Oakland, Md., and afterward took part in the chase after John Morgan in Ohio. He has served as judge of the County Court, and is now justice of the peace.

The first resident physician of whom we have any account, was Dr. Marmaduke Dent, who married Squire William Price's daughter, and was here before 1820. The next was the celebrated Rev. Peter T. Lashley, about 1826. Before

1820, Dr. Charles McLean, of Morgantown, was sent for in cases of sickness. In 1841, Dr. W. D. Eyster was here; and in 1848, he was succeeded by Drs. J. P. Sturgiss, C. F. M. Kidwell, and W. E. Herndon; succeeded, in 1852, by Dr. James H. Manown, who was born in Allegheny Co., Pa., in 1822. He was surgeon in the 14th West Virginia Infantry, and was in the engagements at Cloyd Mountain, Lexington, Lynchburg, Carter's Farm, Winchester, Martinsburg, Halltown, Berrysville, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, and Medly. In one of these engagements, he coolly threw a shell that lit at his feet over an embankment, where it ourst in an instant after leaving his hands. He is a member of the State Medical Society.

Dr. W. H. Ravenscraft came after 1852.

Dr. W. S. Martin, a brother of the Hon. B. F. Martin, and a graduate of Starling Medical College, came in 1873.

Dr. R. Bruce L. Trippett attended lectures at Jefferson Medical College. He graduated at Louisville Medical College, and commenced to practice in 1872. He is a member of the State Medical Society.

Dr. Arthur Love was here for a short time in 1878.

Dr. S. A. Pratt, a native of Tyler County, attended lectures in Ohio, and came in 1879. He passed the State board exanimation in 1881.

Dr. John D. Hall attended lectures at Louisville and Baltimore, and came in 1881, and left in 1882 for Aurora, where he now is.

About 1830, Thomas McGee had a store opposite Elijah Shaffer's. About the same time, Samuel Byrne had a store where John H. Brown keeps, which burnt down, and he built the present building. He was succeeded by H. & Elisha M. Hagans (1833), J. C. McGrew & Co. (1840), E. M. Hagans (1845), W. H. Grimes, James W. Parks, Shaffer & Wilson, E. M. H. Brown, J. H. Brown (1869), J. H. Brown & Co. (1871), C. E. Brown (1877), J. H. Brown (1879), D. R. Jackson (1880), and J. H. Brown (1882.)

William Carroll about 1831, opened a store on the site of

Corbin's store room. He was succeeded by E. T. Brandon, H. H. Gribble, and in 1867, by J. M. Godwin, when the house burnt down.

William Carroll also kept a store in a log house near the site of the Journal office.

Wick Johnson had a store on the site of Dr. Elliott's store, which burned down about 1843. Rev. J. W. Regar built the present brick building and kept there, followed by E. T. Brandon, Joseph Jackson, F. Heermans & Co., Joseph Jackson, and in 1871 by Elliott & Startzman, and in 1873 by Dr. Felix Elliott.

In 1844, James Mullin kept on the site of Joseph Jackson's store. He was followed by James C. McGrew, who built the present building in 1852; and was succeeded by McGrew & Jackson (1857), J. C. McGrew (1862), W. C. McGrew, McGrew & Parks, Parks & Co., Parks & Jackson, and Joseph Jackson (1880).

About 1844, Rev. J. W. Regar kept in E. Lantz's shoe and boot shop.

About 1850, James Caldwell kept on the site of J. W. Parsons's store. His building burnt down.

James W. Parsons came from Tucker County, where he served as justice of the peace, and from which he was a delegate to the Wheeling Convention of 1861. He built his present store-room in 1872.

J. M. Godwin built his store-room, now postoffice, in 1865.

C. M. Bishop erected his store building in 1877 and kept antil 1881, and was succeeded by C. M. Bishop & Co.

Hartley & Hutchinson opened in 1882 in C. H. Corbin's store-room.

The first drug store was opened in 1875, by Dr. W. R. Potter, who attended Cornell University and afterward medical lectures at the Louisville Medical College, and in 1878 sold to D. R. Jackson, and is now engaged in the grocery and hardware business. The next drug store was

opened in the building now used by the *Argus* newspaper, by George S. Martin and D. R. Jackson in 1878. Mr. Martin was accidently killed in 1879.

H. H. Potter, watchmaker and jeweler, opened out in the old postoffice building in 1880. In the same building, Mack Evick, from Pendleton County, saddler and harness maker, commenced business in 1881, succeeding the late I. Lee Cooper.

The National Bank of Kingwood was organized Nov. 14, 1865, with a paid-up capital of \$100,000. The board of directors were, William G. Brown, president, Smith Crane, vice president, J. C. McGrew, cashier, Charles M. Bishop and James H. Carroll. Francis Heermans was elected cashier July 28, 1870, in place of James C. McGrew, who resigned. The capital of the bank was increased, Jannuary 7, 1871, to \$125,000. James W. Parks has since been elected assistant cashier. The bank makes its loans principally in this section of the State.

In 1875, Allen & Dorsey started a planing mill, and the next year sold to Oliver Dunn, who carries on the wagon making business also. Robert McCafferty opened, about 1875, his planing mill, which burnt down in 1881. Draper C. Hughes commenced, in 1881, his present planing mill, and in connection the manufacture of furniture.

The Journal Building, which appears as the frontispiece of this work, and in which this book was printed, was built in 1879, by William M. O. Dawson, the present editor and proprietor of The Preston County Journal; foreman, B. M. Squires.

The Argus newspaper is edited by George Purcell, a native of Rappahamock County, Va., formerly editor of the Broad-Axe; foreman, James W. White.

One of the prominent men of Kingwood was Elisha M. Hagans, son of Rev. George Hagans, born November 28, 1798. He was a man remarkable for truth and veracity. He married, Miss Anne M. Brown, sister of the Hon. William

G. Brown, and was a leading member of the M. E. Church. He removed to Elmhurst, Illinois, in 1857; died, March 5, 1864, in Cincinnati, and was buried in Graceland Cemetery, Chicago, where but a few months ago his widow was buried by his side. He was the father of five children: Marcellus B., late Judge of the Superior Court at Cincinnati; Jane R, late consort of Judge Dille; Lovela, Juliet and Annie E.

Israel Baldwin was another of the prominent men of Kingwood. He was born in New Milford, Conn., and came in 1827 as agent for the Fellows lands then owned by Dr. Troups. He married Miss Phebe Bunker, a highly accomplished and very amiable lady. He was a man of extensive and varied information, and died April 16, 1870.

The Mezart Brass Band was organized in 1868, E. G. Jeffreys (leader), E. M. H. Brown, W. A. Reese, H. C. Showalter, W. C. McGrew, R. B. L. Trippett, Hemy Deaker, Joseph M. Brown, James W. Holt and E. O. Ludwig, members. The members of the present band are, John M. Crane (leader), who joined one month after its organization, Dr. R. B. L. Trippett, Ed. S. Elliott, Frank Murdock, F. M. Thomas, Ira E. Travis, J. K. Monroe, D. C. Hughes, G. D. Strider, E. M. Menear and Grove C. Jackson.

Crane's Orchestra was organized in 1880, with John M. Crane (leader), J. H. Hawthorne, I. E. Travis, D. R. Jackson, D. C. Hughes, A. W. Potter, Ed. S. Elliott, H. W. McCafferty and Drs. R. B. L. Trippett and S. A. Pratt, members.

The Philomathean Society was organized about 1840. The Hon. James C. McGrew and Judge John A. Dille were among the original members. Judge E. C. Bunker, Hon. John J. Brown, Alex. Martin, once president of the West Virginia University, and many other prominent men have been among its members. The society was revived last about 1880, and ran a few months.

The Kingwood Literary and Library Association was organized January 15, 1882; George Purcell, president, J. C. Ralphsnyder, vice president, P. J. Crogan, recording

secretary, John M. Crane, corresponding secretary, E. C. Ravenscraft, librarian, succeeded by Mrs. Kate B. Payne, Peter R. Smith, treasurer. The society has 40 volumes in its library.

Peter Voltz, merchant tailor, came in 1867 from Maryland. Kingwood has an \$8000 school building, a fine Presbyterian and a splendid M. E. church.

The altitude of Kingwood at the Court-house gate is 1864 feet and 9 inches above tide water.

Tunnelton is situate on the B. & O. R. R., $260\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Baltimore, and $118\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Wheeling, at the east end of the Kingwood Tunnel. It is at the head of Pringle's Run, and is 10 miles southwest from the county seat, with a population of 125. James C. McGrew erected the first building for a store, which is now used for a bark shed. He was followed by D. B. Jeffers, Allen, Shaffer & Co., and Shaffer & Bonafield, In 1878, Shaffer & Bonafield (M. L. Shaffer and A. J. Bonafield) opened in their present large building, and do an extensive business in staves, shook and tanbark.

M. C. Gibson and brother opened their store in 1875.

The first postmaster was Henry L. Bosket, followed by D. B. Jeffers, Charles E. Ellis and A. J. Bonafield, the present incumbent.

Martin L. Shaffer is the present ticket and freight agent.

W. J. Lavelle has charge of the telegr. ph office. He came in 1876 from Fairmont. He was the author of the "Polly Q. L." letters of local notoriety in 1880. Mr. Lavelle was married to Miss Allie Griffith in 1881. The telegraph company keep him at this point on account of its importance, and that he has never had an accident.

Peter Barrack kept the first public house, followed by J. W. Brown, C. E. Ellis, A. J. Bonafield, and Luther E. Swearingen.

John W. Brown, founder and machinist, who came from Mt. Savage, Md., in 1856, started his large foundry about

1870, to which he has attached a large machine shop.

Gibson, Weaver, Brown and Mankins built the steam flouring mill in 1879.

George P. Durr, son of Philip Durr, keeps the livery stable.

Dr. H. W. Harr came in 1880,

G. J. Shaffer has a steam saw-mill near, and M. C. Gibson another.

Howesville is 5 miles southwest from the county seat, on the Kingwood and Tunnelton road. John J. Gocke came in 1840 from Germany, and resided on its site in 1859. About 1868, James Dexter Howe, of Maine, established a shook shop here for A. A. Perry & Co. He was succeeded by S. S. Evans, who obtained a p. o. here. In 1870, he named Howesville after James Dexter Howe who still lives here and is in the lumber business. In 1871, Henry Wright became postmaster, and moved the office to its present location. John J. Gocke was in charge of the toll gate here, and was superintendent of the Brandonville, Kingwood and Evansville turnplke for 28 years. He built and opened his present store in 1879.

Mills.—The Berket Minor mill was one of the earliest in the county It was built before 1800, just above Albright's mill on Green's Run. Thomas McGee many years after ward built a mill one half mile above its site. In 1853, William Albright built the present steam and water mill now operated by his son, D. J. Albright. David Trowdridge, in 1807, built a mill near the island in Cheat River. Jacob Snyder built a mill on Cheat close to A. W. Chidester's, and Samuel Trowbridge built one on Morgau's Run, near which Samuel Snyder afterwards built the mill now owned by Bishop & Stone. Williams Brothers own the mill on Heather Run, George Conley built a steam mill at Kingwood about 25 years ago. C. W. Fawcett now has his shoe shop in the building. The Tunnelton steam mill was built in 1879.

Mail Service.—The first posterfice in the district was es-

tablished at Kingwood, and James Carroll, now living, was a mail carrier in 1817, on the route coming through the Green Glades (Cranberry) past Kingwood, and running to Clarksburg. The present postoffices are, Kingwood, Howesville and Tunnelton; supplied by a daily mail.

Paint Bank.—On the bank of Laurel Run is the celebrated paint bank of this district, similar to the one described in Valley District.

Kingwood Railway Company.—This company was chartered, January 9, 1882; capital stock limited to \$150,000, in shares of \$50 each. The charter members were, William G. Brown, James H. Carroll, Wm. M. O. Dawson, George Purcell, Daniel R. Jackson, Joseph Jackson, C. M. Bishop, Wm. R. Potter, William G. Brown Jr., James H. Manown, Oliver Dunn, D. C. Hughes, Sanson W. Smalley, Elias Lantz, James E. Murdock, John Morris Crane, Peter Voltz, Elisha Thomas, J. Ami Martin, Alvin W. Potter, Smith Crane, D. Y. Morris, William G. Worley, M. H. Murdock, Neil J. Fortney, and John Barton Payne.

The company organized February 11, 1882, and the following board of directors was elected, namely: C. M. Bishop, president, J. H. Brown, vice president, William G. Brown, Jr., treasurer, Dr. James H. Manown, James H. Carroll, William G. Worley, Simeon Mattingly, Elisha Thomas, Wm. M. O. Dawson, D. C. Hughes, Joseph Jackson, Neil J. Fortney, and John Barton Payne, secretary. Executive Committee: Dr. James H. Manown, chairman, John Barton Payne, secretary, Wm. M. O. Dawson, Wm. G. Worley, and Joseph Jackson.

On the 3d of April, 1882, the county court, on motion made an order submitting to the voters of Kingwood District a proposition for that district to subscribe \$25,000 to the capital stock of the company. Accordingly, on the 20th of the following May the election was held; and the subscription was authorized by a vote of 270 to 126. The preliminary survey was made in April, 1882, by Thomas M. Jackson.

chief engineer, and J. C. Merideth and C. E. Grafton, assistants. The object of the company is the construction of a narrow gauge road from Kingwood to Tunnelton.

Religious Denominations.—The first Methodist preachers who traveled in this region were members of the Baltimore Conference. In the year 1786, Wm. Phœbus, John Wilson and E. Phelps were appointed to the Redstone Circuit in Pennsylvania. They extended their field southward and passed up the Monongahela and its branches, as far as settlements had been made. In 1788, Jacob Lurton and Lashley Matthews, from the Redstone Circuit, enlarged their field eastward, and preached in "the sparce settlements interspersed through the mountains. They entered the range fifteen miles south of Uniontown, Pa., and, passing up a creek, made their way to the Sandy Creek Glades, and formed a society which met at the house of William Waller."

About 1799, the Monongahela Circuit was formed. In 1813, it extended from the Pennsylvania line, southward, including Randolph County, with a membership of 781, and was traveled by John W. Watt and Jacob Foreman. In 1815, by A. Pool and Robert Boyd. In 1817, the circuit was called Monongahela and Randolph, and was traveled by the following ministers: John Connally and Thomas Jamison. Thomas Jamison and Wm. Hank (1821), Thomas Beeks and Shadrack Cheney (1822–3.) In 1824, the Pittsburgh Conference was formed, and Samuel R. Brockunier and N. Callender were appointed to the Monongahela Circuit. In 1826, Wm. Hank and Richard Armstrong; 1827, S. Cheney and George McKaskey; 1828, S. Cheney and John Spencer; 1829–30, Robert Boyd and Edmund Sehon; 1831–2, Andrew Coleman and John West.

About this time Morgantown became a station and Kingwood circuit was formed and included the country south of Morgantown between Tygarts Valley and Cheat rivers to Randolph County, and some distance, east of Cheat River. It was traveled in 1833-4 by Hiram Miner and E. G. Mur

phy, a local preacher; 1834-5, James L. Turner and S. G. J. Worthington; 1835, Samuel Kyle, Chester Morrison and Walter Chalfant, then an exhorter; 1836, George Monroe and John Francisco; 1837, Jeremiah Phillips and Samuel B. Dunlap; 1838, S. Cheney and W. F. Lauck; 1839, S. Cheney and John W. Reager; 1840, Francis H. Read, H. C. Boyers, Joseph Shaw and Joseph Boils, supplies; 1841-2, F. H. Read and William Lynch; 1842, A. A. Jimeson and G. A. Lowman; 1843, John M. Dudly and Henry Clay Dean; 1844-5, I. McClaskey and Daniel P. Mitchell; 1846-7, Jacob S. Patterson.

The West Virginia Conference was formed in 1848, and the following ministers have been appointed for Kingwood Circuit: 1848–9, James L. Clark and R. Ball; 1850–1, William Smith; 1852–3, J. W. Snodgrass; 1854, R. L. Brooks and A. Robe; 1856, J. J. Dolliver; 1858, S. King and E. S. Wilson; 1859, S. King and Wm. R. Carroll; 1860, D. O. Stewart; 1861, Geo. W. Arnold; 1862, Franklin Ball; 1863–6, A. Hall and S. W. Davis; 1866–9, W. C. Wilson; 1869–71, M. McNeal; 1872–3, W. C. Griffith; 1874–5, W. C. Snodgrass; 1876–7, Wesley Prettyman; 1878–81, L. H. Jordan, and in 1881, Rev. Ashford Hall.

There are twelve pastoral charges and parts of four others in the territory of the original Kingwood Circuit, which have been contracted to three appointments: Kingwood, Albrightsville and Snider's, with a membership of 236. There are three Sabbath Schools with 238 members.

The present pastor, the Rev. Ashford Hall, was reappointed to this circuit at the last session of the conference, after an absence of 16 years. Mr. Hall is a native of this county, and was licensed to preach and recommended for the traveling connection by the Kingwood quarterly conference in 1849.

The first Methodist society in Kingwood was organized sometime prior to the year 1815. William Sigler was a class leader from that time until his death in 1864.

Soon after the organization of the society, a log church

was built one mile east of the village, deeded to the following trustees: William G. Lowman, William Mason, Sr., David Trowbridge, John Snider, Jacob Snider, James Murphy and William Sigler. After 1818, the Court house was used as a place for preaching, and class and prayer meetings were held in the houses of the leaders, William Sigler and Elisha M. Hagans.

In 1842 a good brick church was built in Kingwood, and dedicated by Dr. W. Hunter, P. E. This was used till 1879, when the house now in use, costing near \$10,000, was erected, which will compare favorably with any church edifice in the State. The corner stone was laid April 29, 1878, and it was dedicated Sunday, May 25, 1879. S. M. Howard, of Wheeling, was the architect, and Robert McCafferty, S. W. Smalley and D. C. Hughes, builders. It contains three memorial windows, respectively in remembrance of Abner Ravenscraft, William Sigler and the Rev. David Trowbridge, who was a local preacher for over 61 years.

The following are the names of the class, as far as can be ascertained, which met in the old log church: William Sigler and his wife, Nancy Sigler, John Francisco and wife, David Trowbridge and wife, Jacob Snider and wife, John Snider and wife, Cornelius King and wife, John Cassatt and wife, Keziah Moore, Sarah Carroll, Mrs. Spurgin, and Mrs. Snider, John Francisco and D. Trowbridge were local preachers. The society in Kingwood has now (1882) four classes with Smith Crane, James Carroll, James E. Murdock, and Mrs. Mattie Heermans, leaders. Total membership, 140; a flourishing Sabbath School, with 150 scholars; superintendents, J. Ami Martin and F. Heermans.

A class meets at Howesville in the school house; J. F. Rhodes, class-leader. First members: J. F. Rhodes and wife, Henry Wright and wife, Joseph Wright and wife, and others.

The Presbyterians come next in organization. The Rev. Joel Stoneroad, sent out by the board of missions in 1831, preached at Mrs. Baldwin's house (now J. S. Murdock's),

succeeded by the Rev. C. B. Bristol. The church was organized November 11, 1837; present, Rev. Messrs. A. J. Fairchild, C. B. Bristol. Elders-John Jones, Samuel Graham; members: Thomas Brown and wife, Eleanor; Samuel Graham and wife, Rebecca; Edward Hartley, Jonathan Blayney and wife, Susannah; James Nusem and wife, Anne Brown, Julia Brown, Juliet A. R. Brown, Elizabeth Parks, Hannah Royse, Rachel Royse, Maria Smith, and David Simpson (by letter) from Middletown Church, Alex. Smith, Sarah Smith, Isabella Smith, Phebe Baldwin, George Robinson and wife, Millie H. Nicholas and —— Grav (by letter) from Morgantown Church.

The present fine church edifice in Kingwood was commenced in 1877; S. Sloan, of Philadelphia, architect; and D. A. Sprigg, of Grafton, builder. The corner stone was laid August 16, 1877, and the church was dedicated July 7, 1878. The cost was \$6,000. The ministers in charge have been, 1831 (6 months), Rev. Joel Stoneroad; 1831 to 1844, C. B. Bristol; 1845 to 1856, John G. Howell; 1857 to 1862, James H Flanagan; 1866 to 1867, John Branch; 1868 to 1870, W. R. Sibbett; 1870 to 1873, Morehead Edgar; 1874, George M. Fleming; part of 1875, Alexander Gulick; 1875, to 1879, Henry G. Blayney; from Dec. 15, 1879, the present minister, Samuel Graham, who came from Clarion County, Pennsylvania, about 1872, and whose maternal ancestor was John Rodgers, who was burnt at Smithfield, England. Church officers installed have been as follows: Elders-1837, Samuel Graham, Thomas Brown; 1847, Thomas Watson; 1848, John P. Byrne; 1849, James P. Caldwell; 1869, Joseph Jackson, C. E. Brown: 1875, Elias Lantz; 1877, Dr. James Cox. Deacons—1841, John P. Byrne, Thomas Watson; 1875, John T. Neff, Dr. James H. Manown; 1877, Nicholas Posten, Samuel A. Dill. The present membership is 75; whole number received, 253. This church was in the Redstone Presbytery of the Pittsburgh Synod until Oct. 6th, 1863, when it became part of the West Virginia Presbytery, of the Wheeling Synod.

The Catholics about 1845, built a church near Howesville, called St. Joseph's, now torn down. The first members were John J. Gocke, John H. Greaser, Garret Arn, Garret Westling, and others. The corner stone of the present church here was laid Sept. 16, 1877; and it was dedicated Sept. 15, 1878. It is also called St. Joseph's. Its membership is 208. The Rev. E. M. Hickey was the first priest, and the Rev. J. M. McBride the present one in charge. The Rev. J. J. Gocke, son of John J. Gocke, is a priest in the diocese of Cleveland, Ohio, and is settled as pastor at South Thompson, Ohio. He is the only priest ever born in Preston County.

The Evangelical Association, in 1874, built the church at Pleasant Dale, and, in 1875, Kingwood Circuit was taken from Preston Circuit. The ministers in charge have been as follows: D. Sayler, 1875; —— Bowling, 1876; R. P. Vanmeter, 1877; J. T. Bowles, 1878; E. C. Martin, 1879; J. M. Balentine, 1880.

The Baptists organized a church in Kingwood, April 23, 1881. It was organized by the Rev. Joseph Clarke, assisted by the Rev. Felix Elliott, and consisted of 7 members, namely: Felix Elliott, John Williams, A. W. Snyder, Caroline Monroe, Orpah Fortney, Elizabeth Potter, and Jennette R. Davis. It now has a membership of 14. In September, 1881, the church called the Rev. P. H. Murray as pastor, and he accepted and entered on his labors in December, 1881. For 30 or 40 years previously this denomination have had occasional preaching in Kingwood. They now have a Sabbath School, which meets in the Court house hall.

The African M. E. Church has an organization which meets in their school house at Kingwood. The Rev. Alfred Steptoe is the present minister.

The Kingwood Auxilliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was organized October 19, 1873, by Mrs. L. A. Hagans, with 23 members. The officers were Mrs. James A. Brown, president; Miss Jennie Startzman, recording secretary; Mrs. Smith Crane, corresponding secretary. It now has a membership of 31, and has collected nearly \$400 for the missionary cause. The presidents have been as follows: Mrs. James A. Brown, Mrs. Wesley Prettyman, Mrs. James C. McGrew, Mrs. Marcellus Murdock and Mrs. Ashford Hall.

Schools.—In early days a man by the name of Murphy taught school close to Kingwood, and about 1812, George Neil taught, and some what later Robert White was a very popular teacher.

Kingwood District is divided into 13 sub-school districts, whose teachers for the winter of 1881-2, were as follows:

No. 1, Kingwood, A. W. Frederick, Ph. B., Prin.; E. C. Ravenscraft, 1st assistant; Miss Annie V. Klauser, 2d assistant; Miss Ella Berry, 3d assistant; No. 2, A. W. Snyder: No. 3, W. Harshbarger; No. 4, Howesville, William R. Shaffer; No. 5, D. H. Savage; No. 6, Miss Julia Bonafield; No. 7, "80" Cut, Edward S. Elliott; No. 8, Tunnelton, James M. Nugent; No. 9, S. M. Shaffer; No. 10, H. W. Nine: No. 11, George Herring; No. 12, A. M. Moore; No. 13, J. E. Mattingly. Colored school, Miss Florence Parks.

Enumeration of pupils (April, 1882) in Kingwood District, between the ages of 6 and 21: Whites—males, 371; females. 297; colored, 28; total, 696.

Kingwood District in 1880 contained 34,200 acres in farms, worth \$190,223; buildings, \$53,750; town lots, \$73,666; personal property, \$254,930; total, \$572,569.

The following information was mislaid and not found until too late for classification:

The Snider M. E. frame church, in the Kingwood Circuit. was built in 1877. The trustees are Samuel Snider, George F. Huffman, Amos Snider, W. D. Martin and Charles C. Craig, a son of John Craig who came in 1821, from Smithfield, Pa. The first class-leader was Samuel Snider, about 25 years ago. The present class-leader is W. D. Martin. The parsonage for the circuit was built in Kingwood about 1873.

For the history of the M. E. denomination in Kingwood district, we are indebted to the Rev. A. Hall. For the history of the Presbyterian and Baptist denominations in the district, we are indebted to the Rev. Samuel Graham and the Rev. Felix Elliott.

Dr. Benjamin Allen, now in Wheeling, was in Kingwood about 1850. Dr. James Harvey Manown, referred to as a physician of Kingwood, was the son of James Manown who married Cassandra Devore. He attended Washington College, and practiced medicine at Vincennes, Indiana, and Greensboro, Pa., before locating in Kingwood. He married Mary Isabella Armstrong in 1856.

An old blacksmith shop once stood close to the Journal office in Kingwood, where Thomas Squires worked nearly 50 years ago. The present blacksmith shops in Kingwood are run by G. D. Strider and George A. Williams.

Elias Lantz, boot and shoe maker, came to Kingwood in 1865.

Henry Shaffer came from Loudon County, Va., to Monongalia and his brother David came to Preston and his sons were Henry, David and John.

David Potter came from Maryland to Kingwood district. His sons were John, secretary of the school board, William T., Conrad and David.

The B. & O. R. R. runs along the southern boundary of Kingwood District for 2 miles and 274 poles.

Capt. G. W. Clutter died at the residence of Smith Crane in 1857. He was born in Pleasant District; commanded a company in the Mexican War; established the Wheeling Argus, and at his death was Auditor of Public Accounts of the State of Virginia.

JOHN BARTON PAYNE.

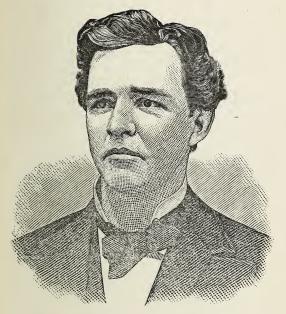
During the reign of King Charles I., about 1640, a member of the Payne family of England came to the Colony of Virginia. He had four sons, two of whom never married and from the other two, who married in Virginia, descended the present somewhat extensive family of Paynes, scattered over Virginia, West Virginia, and other southern states.

Francis Payne, the great grandfather of the subject of this sketch and a direct descendant of one of these married brothers, was an American officer in the Revolutionary War and a citizen of Fauquier County, Virginia. His son, Francis Payne, was a Fauquier County Farmer, and married Miss Withers, daughter of Dr. Withers of that county. Dr. Amos Payne, eldest son of Francis Payne, was born September 11, 1803; read medicine, and graduated in 1833 at Transylvania University, Lexington, Kentucky. On the 18th of May, 1837, he married Miss Elizabeth Barton Smith, daughter of Capt. John P. Smith, a man of fine natural ability, who served with distinction in the legislature of Virginia as a delegate from Fauquier County. Her mother's maiden name was Barton, and she was a native of Frederick County, Virginia.

Dr. Payne removed, in 1847, to Pruntytown, Taylor County, and remained several years practicing his profession quite successfully. Here, on the 26th day of January, 1855, his youngest son, John Barton Payne, was born.

In 1860, Dr. Payne, with his family, returned to Orlean, Fauquier County, where he now resides. Here was spent the youth of the subject of this sketch.

The facilities for acquiring an education in Virginia during and for several years after the war were very poor. These, however, were utilized, and by the fall of 1870, John Barton Payne had acquired a fair English education, attending school in the winter and working on the farm in summer, as he was needed.



Most Fraly yours Ino Partey Payns



In the fall of 1870, he engaged with Mr. A. Ullman, one of the leading merchants of Warrenton, Virginia, and remained in his employ for over two years. From there he went to Thoroughfare Station, in Prince William County, and took charge of a store for Major Robert F. Mason, remaining there until the fall of 1873.

On the 8th of March, 1874, he came to Pruntytown to transact some business for his father, and upon his arrival engaged with Adolphus Armstrong, clerk of the courts of Taylor County, as a clerk in his office, studying law while not engaged at his duties in the office.

He left the next year and engaged with a firm in the shook business at Thornton, and remained until he attained his majority in 1876. Early in this year he completed his law studies, and on the 15th of August passed an examination before Judges J. M. Jackson, Charles S. Lewis and John Brannon, and was licensed to practice law.

He made his maiden speech September 1, 1876, before the circuit court of Taylor County, in defense of a man named Taylor. In the presidential campaign of 1876, he took an active part, and was made acting chairman of the Democratic county committee, serving as a delegate from Taylor County to the senatorial and congressional conventions, and stumped the county for Tilden and Hendricks. In October, he attended the circuit court in Preston County, and during his stay delivered a Tilden speech in the Court-house. On the 5th day of March, 1877, he removed to Kingwood and located permanently for the practice of the law, and entered at once into active practice.

At the March term of the county court, he was engaged alone against the Hon. William G. Brown, ex-Judge Dille and others, and has ever since been engaged in all cases of importance.

In 1878, he was elected chairman of the Democratic executive committee of Preston County, which position he has held ever since. In the summer of 1878, he was chairman of the Preston delegation in the Democratic congressional con-

vention, which convened at Keyser, and supported the Hon. B. F. Martin for the congressional nomination.

Mr. Payne was married on the 7th of October, 1878, at the residence of the Hon. James C. McGrew, to Miss Kate Bunker, the Rev. J. R. Thompson, then president of the West Virginia University, performing the ceremony.

When the convention assembled in Grafton in June, 1880, to select delegates to the National Democratic Convention at Cincinnati, Mr. Payne was chosen by the executive committee temporary chairman of the convention. And in the Fairmont congressional convention, which assembled soon after, he was chairman of the Preston delegation, and made the speech placing the Hon. Daniel B. Lucas in nomination for congress and was recognized as the leader of those pressing his claims. After the congressional nomination was made, Mr. Payne was tendered the position of presidential elector, but declined, and was subsequently chosen a member of the congressional executive committee.

A delegate to the Martinsburg State convention, he supported the Hon. Charles James Faulkner for the gubernatorial nomination. In the presidential canvass which followed, he took a very active part, and after stumping his own county, crossed the Mason and Dixon line, speaking in Pennsylvania for Hancock. In May, 1881, he was elected special judge of the circuit court of Tucker County, to decide a chancery cause pending in the court, to which the regular judge, the Hon. William T. Ice, was a party.

Mr. Payne has been engaged in some cases of considerable importance. Soon after his removal to Kingwood, he became engaged with others in the case of Carroll vs. Carroll, involving much of the land in and around Kingwood, and was sent to Kentucky to work up the case, and was succesful. In 1878, a large body of the "Canaan" lands in Tucker County, owned by Adam C. Harness, was purchased by one Leatherman for taxes, and ex-Judge Maxwell, of Clarksburg, brought an action of ejectment to recover the land for Leatherman. Mr. Payne was employed by Mr.

Harness to defend it. The case was fully argued before the Hon. John Brannon, then judge of the circuit court of Tucker County, by Judge Maxwell for the plaintiff, and Mr. Payne for the defendant; and was decided for the defendant.

The legislature of the State, in the session of 1872–3, passed an act providing that the chattel exemption should not be claimed where the debt due was for rent. This provision was deemed by Mr. Payne unconstitutional, and, in 1878, he obtained from Judge Brannon an injunction raising this question. His position was sustained by the circuit court, and upon an appeal to the supreme court of appeals, where the question was fully argued by Mr. Payne, in June, 1880, the judgment was affirmed.

In January, 1882, Mr. Payne was elected Mayor of Kingwood, and is now serving in that capacity. He was an active worker in organizing "The Kingwood Railway Company." He is a director and the secretary of the company, and a member and the secretary of its executive committee. He took a very active part, in connection with Senator Dawson and others, to secure the vote of Kingwood District to subscribe \$25,000 to aid the construction of the road.

In March, 1882, he was called to Baltimore to assist in the argument of an important case before Judge Bond, of the circuit court of the United States.

Mr. Payne is ever alive, and always enlisted in any movement for the advancement of the material interests or the intellectual progress of the county.

CHARLES E. BROWN.

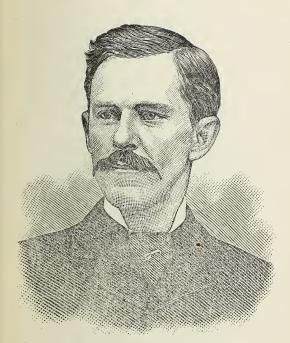
Charles Edgar Brown is the youngest son of Thomas Brown, who was an old and leading lawyer of Preston County. His mother was Ellen S., daughter of Alexander Smith, of Fort Pendleton. Mr. Brown is a brother of Commander R. M. G. Brown. of the U. S. Steamer Alarm, and General George W. Brown, of Grafton. He received a good education, and taught four terms in the free schools. He was made a trustee of the Kingwood public school and as such served acceptably. From 1871 to 1877, he gave his attention to the mercantile business in Kingwood.

He studied law with his uncle, the Hon. William G. Brown, and was admitted to the bar, at Kingwood, in September, 1878. In 1879, Mr. Brown took a special course at the Columbian Law School, at Washington City, from which he graduated with honors June 10, 1879. Returning to Kingwood, he practiced law until April 11th, 1880, when he located in Cincinnati with Judge M. B. Hagans and S. J. Broadwell, attorneys, practicing before the Superior Court.

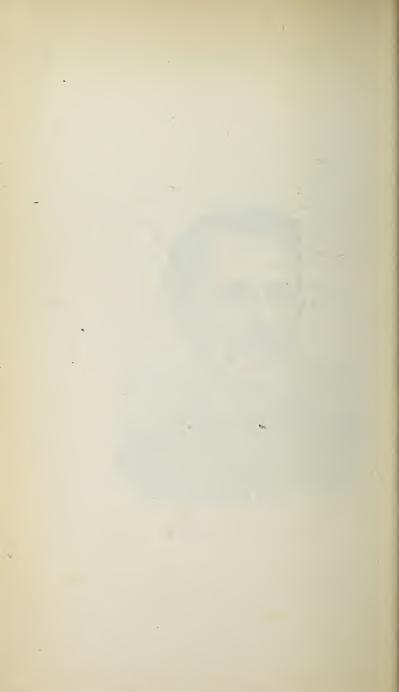
In religious belief, Mr. Brown is a Presbyterian, being installed an elder in the church at Kingwood, in 1869. Politically, he is a conservative Democrat.

He was elected a director of the projected Iron Valley and Pennsylvania Line R. R., in 1873.

Mr. Brown was always interested in every enterprise calculated to benefit the county.



CHARLES E. BROWN.



CHAPTER XXIII.

LYON DISTRICT.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — INDIAN TRAIL — EARLY SETTLEMENTS —
ROADS — MILLS — ORGANIZATIONS: MAGISTERIAL, TOWNSHIP, DISTRICT — TOWNS — MAIL SERVICE — FURNACES: IRONDALE,
GLADESVILLE — COAL AND CORE WORKS — OIL WELL — RELIGIOUS
DENOMINATIONS — SCHOOLS.

The territory of Lyon District was embraced in the Seventh (magisterial) District, in 1852. In 1863, without change of boundaries, it became Lyon Township; and in 1872, by change of designation Lyon District.

It is bounded on the north by Valley District, on the east by Kingwood and Reno districts, on the south by Reno District, and on the west by Taylor and Monongalia Counties.

In order of size, Lyon is eighth; in order of designation, seventh; in population, first; and in wealth, the second district in the county.

The district lies mainly in the Newburg Trough of the Ligonier Valley. Chestnut Ridge is on its western boundary, and the Three Fork Creek hills almost loom up into a mountain ridge. The surface is broken, except in the northeastern part where there is a high and elevated plain. On the chestnut ridges, the soil is a sand loam, but on the hills is a clay loam. Good crops of wheat are raised, averaging from 8 to 16 bushels per acre. Oats, corn, buckwheat, bar ley, and potatoes do well.

The climate is cold but healthy. Three Fork Creek with its branches, Raccoon Creek in the south, and Brain's, Fields and Bird's creeks in the north afford water power for mills and furnaces.

Considerable quantities of timber remain, although much

has been destoyed in clearing. Oak, poplar and chestnut are most abundant, with some ash, sugar and sycamore.

Coal, iron ore and limestone are abundant. The Newburg seam of the Upper Coal Measures comes about two miles northeast of Newburg. The Austen vein or Lower Freeport coal is abundant all through the district. It is accessible along Three Fork and on Lick Run, and on B. M. and R. B. Squires's farm, and on the Pyle place is accompanied by the Upper Freeport vein near 5 feet thick. Limestone veins from 3 to 7 feet are found in all parts of the district. Iron ore is abundant. The Hardman lump ore and the Gladesville shell ore being the most accessible, and are principally used at the furnaces.

Fruit does well, especially the hardier varieties of apple, pear and plum.

Sheep, cattle and horses thrive and do well in Lyon.

Wild animals have long since disappeared, excepting a few wild cat, and now and then a deer is to be seen.

Indian Trail.—The "Southern Branch," leaving the "Great War Path" between Masontown and Reedsville in Valley, came by Gladesville, passing between where Independence and Newburg now stand, and went south.

Early Settlements.—About 1790, the territory of Lyon was a favorite hunting ground for the early settlers of Valley District, and afterward members of the Brown, Zinn, and Fortney families, from there came into the district.

Some time after 1790, Sand Ridge (new Scotch Hill) was settled by David Matthews, the Rev. Kidd Smith, Simpson and others.

John Dale Orr was born in Baltimore, and was in Harmar's, St. Clair's and Crawford's defeats. He was in Capt. Williams's company, under Crawford, and was wounded but escaped from the battle field. He came to Sand Ridge from Uniontown, Pa., in 1798. His wife was Elizabeth Johns. Their children were Catherine, John, born in 1798, Ruth, Hiram, born in 1804, George and James P., an old school

teacher now living in Illinois. Hiram was the father of U. N. Orr, a major in the 173d Va., militia, and elected in 1880 as a member of the House of Delegates from Preston County. Another of his sons, Morgan D. Orr, lives in Marion County.

Nehemiah Squires came at an early day from Loudon County, Virginia. He married Elizabeth Polen. Their children were John, Samuel, William, Harriet, Elizabeth, Sarah and Thomas, the father of B. F. Squires.

Cotemporary with Squires was Thomas Piles, George Monahan and John Casedy.

George Monahan once, with a companion, followed a bear to a cave. Monahan let himself down into the cave with a lighted torch, and there set Mr. Bruin with his paws hanging down, and looking very innocent. He stuck the torch to the bear's nose, and Bruin, astonished and insulted at this mode of attack, ran over him and out of the cave before he could draw his knife. Monahan on coming out found his comrade up in a tree and the bear gone.

Samuel Powell came from Fayette County, Pa., about 1820. His wife was Sarah Morton. One of his sons was John M., father of M. T. Powell.

The territory of Lyon was but thinly settled until the projection and completion of the B. & O. R. R., through the district, and from that time (1850–1853), its increase in population has been very rapid, until now it stands, numerically, first of the eight districts in the county.

Roads.—The oldest road in the district is the old Clarksburg road, entering the district from Zinn's (now Brown's) mill, and running to Gladesville. Here it left the present road and went in a southwest direction. Capt. Gandy kept a tavern on this road, near the site of Gladesville. The present roads are the Ice's Ferry and Tunnelton Turnpike, running along the eastern boundary of the district. The road from Howesville, past Allender's mill, to Newburg, and the road from Brown's mill, past Gladesville and Irondale, to Independence.

Mills.—Colonel John Fairfax built a mill, on Fields Creek, now owned by John Weaver. Jonathan Fortney's water mill is near Irondale. James Allender's mill is on Bird's Creek. A. Fortney built it, about 20 years ago, and sold to Cephas Jacobs, and he to James Childs, of whom Allender purchased. Mr. Allender is from Monongalia County, and is one of the present county commissioners.

A Mr. Thomas built a mill which once stood where Fream's store is, in Independence. In the same town is Samuel Squires's mill, built and run by James Hyatt, and then by Purinton, Weaver, Sapp, James Allender and Rolla Hardman, from whom Squires purchased. The Independence steam mill was built by William McGee about 25 years ago, and was bought by Samuel P. Linton in 1881. Hyatt also built a carding mill, which Weaver afterwards turned into a flouring mill, and operated for several years.

Organizations.—From 1818 to 1852, the territory of the district was not recognized as a distinct part of the county. In the latter year the territory of Lyon District was organized into the Seventh (magisterial) District. On the 10th of July. 1863, it was established as Lyon Township. Its boundary lines are as follows:

"Beginning in the northwest turnpike, on the north side of Little Sandy Creek, in a line of Taylor County; thence N. 72, E. 626 p. to a maple on the west side of the old Evansville road; thence with said road to a stone; thence leaving said road N. 76½, E 320 p. to a W. O.; thence N. 53, E. 42 p. to a R. O., on the north side of said Evansville road; thence with said road to a stump near James Shea's dwelling house; thence leaving the aforesaid road, N. 62½, E. 41 p. to a stump; thence N. 35, E. 300 p. to the big fill west of the big tunnel, corner to Kingwood township; thence with the lines of the last named township, N. 6, E. 600 p. to a W. O. on the east side of Ice's Ferry and Tunnelton turnpike; thence with said turnpike to the old Clarksburg road at Zinn's mill (including Cephas Jacobs and Henry Martin

within the lines and boundaries of Lyon Township); thence with said Clarksburg road and the lines of Valley Township to a small W. O. on the north side of said road; thence leaving said road N. 83, W. 82 p. (passing north of Gordon's dwelling house) to a stome; thence west 230 p. to a W. C. on the west side of a new road; thence with the last named road to a small chestnut on the south side of said new road, and in the Monongalia County line; thence with said county line reversed, S. 36, W. —, to a W. O. on the old Clarksburg road, and one of the original corners to the counties of Monongalia and Preston; thence S. 6, E. 980 p, or 3 miles and 20 poles, to a chestnut corner to said Monongalia County, and also corner to Taylor County; thence with the last named county S. to the place of the beginning."

In 1872, under the new Constitution, Lyon Township became, without any change of boundaries, Lyon District.

From 1818 to 1852,—— Matthews, William McGee, John Howard and D. H. Fortney were among the justices of the peace.

Magisterial officers from 1852 to 1863:

1852.—Justices, John Howard, David H. Fortney, George D. Zinn and William J. Kelly; constables, no record.

1856.—No record.

1860—Justices, Thomas Gregg, Kelso Pell, G. G. Murdock and O. Purinton; constables, no record.

Township officers from 1863 to 1872:

1864, 1866 and 1868.—No record.

1869.—Reason A. Pell, supervisor; E. Huggins, clerk; John V. Fortney, overseer of poor; William Sharps, treasurer; R. Wilkins and J. W. McGee, inspectors; William Sharps, constable; Reuben Warthen, W. C. Wilson and S. B. Pew, surveyors of roads; J. R. Smoot, school commissioner.

1870.—Reason A. Pell, supervisor: R. W. Monroe, justice (in place of Joshua Jenkins, resigned); John V. Fortney, overseer of poor; E. Huggins, clerk; R. Wilkins and J. W. McGee, inspectors; Cornelius Gandy, school commissioner.

Road surveyors.—Precinct No 1, B. P. Warden; No. 2, R. A. Pell; No. 3, John Zinn.

1871.—John C. Howell, supervisor; Reuben Warthen and John Zinn, school commissioners; Eugene Huggins, clerk; John V. Fortney, overseer of poor; Thomas Herrington and Benjamin F. Sapp, inspectors; Lucius C. Baker and John Vanzant, justices, William Sharps and Joseph Kimmell, constables. Road surveyors.—Precinct No. 1, Jacob May; No. 2, W. C. Wilson; No. 3, John Zinn.

District officers elected from August 22, 1872, to December 31, 1881:

1872—Cornelius Gandy and Lucius C. Baker, justices; William Sharps and Burr Stephenson, constables.

1873—School board—no record.

1875—School board—R. W. Monroe (president), R. A. Pell, A. W. Moore.

1876—Justices, James McGee and L. C. Baker; constables. John F. Bratt and William Sharps.

. 1877—School board—Dr. T. F. Lanham (president), David J. Henry, Eugene Lanham.

1879—School board—U. N. Orr (president), Martin L. Shaffer, John V. Fortney, Caleb Piles, A. W. Moore; M. T. Powell, secretary.

1880—Justices, James McGee and Charles H. McCafferty; constables, William Sharps and John F. Bratt, whose father John Bratt came from Morgantown in 1855.

1881—School board—Dr. T. F. Lanham (president), Henry Bolyard, Eugene Lanham; John E. Stuck, secretary.

Road surveyors appointed by the court October 4th, 1881: Precinct No. 1, Silas Sinclair; No. 2, B. F. Squires; No. 3, C. Martin; No. 4, James H. Squires; No. 5, G. W. Wamsley.

In April, 1882, Washington M. Paul was appointed justice of the peace in place of Charles H. McCafferty, who resigned.

Towns.—Newburg, the largest town in the county, is situated on the B. & O. railroad, 113 miles east of Wheeling,

and 266 miles west of Baltimoré. It is 14 miles southwest of the county-seat. It was made a point for a first class station and machine shops by the railroad company. A careful search failed to reveal why they selected the name of Newburg. Probably they had exhausted a long list of names, and as it was a new place, and likely to become of some size, they called it Newburg. It was called "88" in 1852, because it was 88 miles west of Cumberland, next Simpson's Water Station, in 1853, and Newburg in 1854.

Washington M., the father of Jacob Paul, came from Pennsylvania in 1835, and built a house where the Grrel coal dump now is. In 1839, Joshua, father of James R. Smoot, came from Hampshire County, and occupied a house built by Henry Menear. In 1850, Wm. Frazier occupied it, and it is now occupied by William Stanhagen, machinist.

The helpers (engines) on the Cheat River grade were stationed here, and the town grew rapidly.

It was incorporated May 4th, 1868. J. W. Deck, mayor; T. M. Clayton, recorder; James R. Smoot, Patrick Plummer. David Kershner and J. M. Costeio, councilmen. The present council is D. J. Gibson, mayor; Dr. F. M. Dent, recorder; Dr. Wm. M. Dent, Bartley Rabbitt, John G. Shaw, N. S. Stevenson and H. H. Minear, councilmen.

Where D. J. Gibson's store is William Frazier built a small building, and in it S. L. Allen, from Baltimore, in 1853, kept a small bunch of goods. He next kept in Smoot's ware-house, then moving to a house on the site of his prestent building, built in 1867. In 1868, he associated with him Charles E. Ellis. In 1880, they rebuilt and enlarged. Mr. Ellis is a son of Joseph Ellis, who came in 1852, from Frederick County, Maryland, and has been an engineer on the road since 1849. Robert Neil kept next in Mrs. Lackey's millinery shop, followed by James R. Smoot, in 1855, in a house on the site of Allen & Ellis's building, and in 1873 built and occupied his present mercantile establishment, and is now doing business as a member of the firm of Smoot & Berthy. Wm. B. Annan came from Frederick County,

Virginia in 1841. He bought and remodeled, in 1873, the house in which he then commenced and now does business. Mr. Annan resides at Rowlesburg. Gibson & Albright came next, succeeded by Gibson and Thomas, and George W. Lackey. On March 23d, 1880, G. H. Horchler & Coopened in their present building. D. J. Gibson, ex-Deputy Sheriff, opened out his boot and shee, hat and cap store in 1881. J. E. Paul and G. A. Lickle commenced in 1881 in their present establishment.

The first postmaster was S. L. Allen, in 1854, succeeded by D. A. Litzenger, in 1860. From 1865 to 1873, Allen again, and from 1873 to the present time, Charles E. Ellis.

The first tavern was kept by John Perry in 1854. Benjamin Gilbert came next, succeeded again by Perry, after whom came Wm. Golden the present proprietor of the West Virginia House. Miss M. A. Litzinger kept the Washington House several years, succeeded by C. E. Ellis and John Cross, as the Newburg Hotel.

S. L. Allen was the first ticket agent, succeeded by John F. Pickett, W. Atwood, and Thomas M. Clayton, who came from Marion County, in 1861. W. H. Anderson is now in charge, and Mr. Clayton is freight and express agent.

When the machine shops were established, the first master mechanic was R. Eiglehart, next S. B. Crawford, and then the present incumbent, J. H. Reitzel, who came from Piedmont, August 23, 1872, and took charge

The telegraph office, since 1878, has been under the charge of W. H. Anderson, whose father, George E. Anderson, came here from Maryland in 1855.

Albert G. Pickett came from Fauquier Co., Va., in 1850, and taught the first school. He was the father of J. F. Pickett.

The *Independent*, a small newspaper, was established March 24, 1880. The Newburg *Herald* was established by C. H. McCafferty & Co., June 15, 1881, and is now edited by W. J. Martin.

The town has a fair school building of four rooms, and the

school is the largest in the county. M. T. Powell, P. J. Crogan, and E. W. Zinn have been its last principals.

Dr. William Marmaduke Dent was born March 6, 1831, in Monongalia County; read medicine with his father, Dr. Marmaduke Dent, graduated at a medical college in Ohio, practiced with his father, and in 1863 located in Newburg as a general practictioner, paying special attention to surgery. He started his drug store in 1871. He is a member of the American Medical Association, and also of the Medical Society of West Virginia, having acted as its secretary and vice-president, and is now president of that body. His son Dr. F. M. Dent is associated with him in the practice of medicine.

Dr. T. F. Lanham is a native of Marion County; read medicine, graduated at the Baltimore Medical University, and located at Newburg in 1874 as a physician and surgeon. Dr. Lanham was president of the Lyon District school board in 1877 and '78, and was reelected in 1881. He built where he now occupies in 1880.

Dr. J. W. Cameron came about 1880.

The town has a cigar factory, a tin and stove store kept by Charles P. Peters since 1879, a tailoring establishment by Jacob Gibson since 1877. It has three churches, a Masonic lodge, and lodges of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias (No. 5), and Knights of Honor.

Scotch Hill is a small village on the hill above and south of Newburg. It contains near 20 houses, a church, and school building, and was founded about 25 years ago by a colony of industrious Scotch.

Independence (the postoffice is Raccoon) is on the B. & O. Railroad at the junction of Crooks Run with Raccoon Creek It is 265 miles west of Baltimore and 112 miles east of Wheeling, and is 14 miles southwest of the county seat. The town was named by Squire John Howard in honor of the Fourth of July.

An old log cabin, where J. M. Hartley lives, and Thomas Water's mill were here when the railroad was surveyed. The

town built up after the completion of the road. In 1849, Robert Kidd and Brady kept store where William Stans bury lives. They next kept on the site of Hartley & Sharps's ware room, succeeded by S. Rodgers, Rodgers & Ayers, Hagans & Hartley (1863), Hartley & John, J. M. Hartley, Hartley & Co., and, in 1878, Hartley & Sharps (J. M. Hartley and J. H. Sharps). Smoot & Asberry, in 1853, kept where Fream is, succeeded by Asberry (1854) and Jacob Fream (1855). William J. Morgan kept on the south side of the railroad, succeeded by C. Johnson and James Philips.

The first postmaster was Benjamin Huggins, succeeded in 1854 by W. P. Fortney, the Rev. Jacob Fream (1858), John Ayers, George D. Zinn, W. P. Fortney, Joshua Jenkins, and in 1868 the Rev. Jacob Fream again, who is the present incumbent.

John Howard opened the Gordon House, succeeded by John Perry, Hiram Hanshaw and Minor A. Gordon, whose widow is now keeping it. Hanshaw removed, when Gordon came, to the yellow house, and was succeeded by his widow, and she at her death by her daughters.

The first physician was Dr. Felix Elliott, succeeded by Drs. J. S. Gibson, A. Brown and J. P. Shafer. Dr. A. E. Tansey came in 1881.

Irondale was built by George Hardman, and called Franklin. It was built for the accommodation of the hands at the Franklin Furnace, and when the furnace changed its name to Irondale the town did likewise. It is 14 miles southwest of the county seat. Its stores have all been kept by the companies owning the furnace. Its resident physician is Dr. Bomberger. Mrs. Moon keeps a boarding house.

Gladesville is 12 miles southwest of the county-seat. Dr. A. Brown built the first house and practiced medicine. M. P. Fortney and W. H. Zinn started a store. In 1869–70 George Hardman built the furnace, and opened a store, which was run by each succeeding furnace company. W. H. Zinn & Co. started in 1879, and are still carrying on the mercantile business. The first postmaster was Orman

Trickett, succeeded by J. Waltren, and S. L. Zinn, the present incumbent. Dr. E. K. Sutton practiced here in 1831.

Austen is about 3 miles west of Tunnelton, and was named after Dr. Austen, and grew up after the discovery of the Austen vein of coal. It contains about 30 houses, and a store run by Martin L. Shaffer, who is also postmaster.

Mail Service.—Newburg has one western and two eastern mails each day, and Independence and Austen receive daily mails, all over the B. & O. R. R. A tri-weekly mail runs from Masontown into Lyon, past Lyon p. o. (established in 1880, near Brown's Mill, with John S. Snyder postmaster) and Gladesville, to Independence.

Furnaces.—Irondale Furnace was built about 1859 by George Hardman, and was known as "The Hardman Furnace." He ran it until 1865, when the Franklin Iron and Coal Company came in charge of it, and called it Franklin Furnace. In 1866, Hardman again ran it. In 1877, Col. F. Nemegyei bought it, and, on November 15, commenced entensive repairs. On April 15, 1878, the first metal was made under the superintendence of Alex. Strausz and A. Evans. In the fall of 78, William Tate remodeled the furnace, increasing its capacity from 10 to 30 tons of iron in 24 hours. It was put in blast June 8, 1879, and ran until July, 1880; was repaired and ran until June, 1881, and stopped on account of a strike of the laborers. Some repairs were made, and it was put in blast in October, and is still running. The furnace is 62 feet high, 14 foot bosh, and makes a coal short pig iron, mostly used for foundry purposes. It is an iron in nature resembling the Scotch pig. The motive power is an engine of 150 horse-power, and of boiler capacity sufficient for a 200 horse-power engine. It works the car bonate ores known as rock and shell ores, the one 37 per cent. and the other 50 per cent. metallic iron. A late discovered vein of hematite ore is 50 per cent. metallic iron. Colonel F. Nemegvei is the proprietor of the furnace, and

Alex. Strausz, general manager. H. C. Brown, who had been 20 years in government employ at Washington, is bookkeeper, assisted by R. P. Jackson, of Grafton. Isaac A. Jackson is store manager, assisted by A. M. Jeffers. A. T. Haney is foundryman; Benjamin Flyn is outside manager; Joshua Breakiron, foreman of the coal and coke burners, and George Cummings, manager of mines.

Colonel F. Nemegyei served in the Hungarian army in the Revolution against Austria in 1848, with the rank of Colonel of engineers. He escaped to Turkey when the Hungarian forces surrendered in 1849, and from Turkey came to New Orleans in 1850. He was chief engineer of the Tehuan tepec Isthmus R. R. He next engaged in the mahogany business in Mexico for 20 years, running a line of vessels. He was next in the commission business, and, in 1877, bought the Irondale Furnace.

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Alex. Strausz was born in Hungary in 1829; served as a lieutenant in the Hungarian army; was captured and sentenced to 10 years' hard labor; escaped to the Russians, and was exiled in 1850. He came to Boston, engaged as an architect, and served in the U. S. Coast Survey. He was hydrographer and topographer on Admiral Porter's staff until the fall of Vicksburg. He next engaged in North Carolina in the manufacture of railroad cars; and, in 1877, became general manager of Irondale Furnace.

Gladesville Furnace was built about 1870 by George Hardman. Matthew Haney, father of A. T. Haney, was a prospector of ores at this furnace. Calhoun & Evans succeeded Hardman, and they were followed by Tate & Lafferty in 1879, who ran until 1881, since which time it has been idle.

Coal and Coke Works.—Lawrence Henry prospected and found coal at Newburg after the B. & O. R. R. was built. Hescock & Rusley opened coal mines in 1855. In 1856, the Newburg Orrel Coal Company bought them out. Lawrence Henry was appointed General Superintendent. Mr. Henry

was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1829, and came to the United States in 1845, and sent, in 1853, the first car of coal ever shipped from West Virginia, to General Columbus O'Donnel, Baltimore. The Newburg mines ran through the panic without stopping. They employ 50 miners and 30 laborers. They have averaged 300 tons of coal a day for 25 years. The track from the mines is 2½ miles in length, on which is over 2000 feet of trestle work, three small tunnels, and an inclined plane 2100 feet in length down to the railroad. The company own 1800 acres of timber land. The Newburg seam they work is 10 feet thick, and near it is a 15inch iron ore vein of 60 per cent. metallic iron, and a 16-foot vein of limestone. Their coal is always in demand. The Orrel Coal Co. have 20 bee-hive coke ovens running and manufacture a good article of coke. They bored a 500-foot test hole in 1881 for minerals, and at 143 feet struck a 5-foot vein of good coking coal, and at 329 feet struck a 9-foot vein of coal and ore. They are now (1882) sinking a shaft for the purpose of working these veins, especially the Austen coking coal.

The Austen coal mines were opened in June, 1866, and run till December, 1876; then closed till April, 1877, when they commenced again, and are still running. They employ 30 miners and 40 hands; run 73 coke ovens, manufacturing the Austen coke, which is somewhat superior to the famous Connellsville coke, as shown by analyses of Prof. Dwight, of Wheeling, and Prof. Button, of Philadelphia. Martin L. Shaffer is general superintendent of the mines and property, consisting of 2300 acres, nearly all of which is underlaid with the Austen vein of 4 feet. Prof. J. P. Leshley says of the Austen coke that "it makes a clear, even, silvery coke, sufficiently hard to bear the heaviest burden of the blast furnace."

At Irondale furnace they have some 25 or 30 coke ovens, and manufacture a good article of coke.

Oil Well-A well was sunk for oil, about 1867, on Fields's

Creek, and after boring some 600 or 700 feet, work was stopped and never resumed.

Religious Denominations.—The Baptists had, some time about 1818, a church at what is now Scotch Hill. This church was known as the old Ironside Baptist Church, in which the Rev. Kidd Smith preached.

The Three Fork Baptist Church was organized in 1841, at David H. Fortney's, near the site of Irondale Furnace, by Elders John Curry and William Davidson. The members were D. H. Fortney, John Orr, George Orr, James Orr, Samuel Powell, Leah Fortney and Mary Armstrong. The pastors, until 1855, were John Curry, James Gawthrop, C. Keyes, L. Howell, J. M. Purinton and W. P. Fortney. They worshiped in an old house close to the residence of James McGee, and later at the old church on Scotch Hill, called Eden. D. B. Purinton came next for a short time, and the name of the church was changed to Independence. following pastors have served the church: J. M. Purinton, D. D., P. G. Sturgiss, Dr. Felix Elliott, D. W. Rogers, Aaron Bennet, J. C. Jordan, and E. M. Sapp, the present minister. The present church at Independence was built in 1876, and its membership at this time is about 60.

The Ebenezer Baptist Church at Gladesville was organized October 4, 1845. The first deacons were William Miller, John V. Martin, John V. Fortney, and Jacob Hibbs, the father of Laban Hibbs, who came to near Gladesville about 50 years ago. The first pastor was James Martin, succeeded by several of the ministers of the Independence church. Joseph Clarke is the present pastor. The Rev. D. W. Rogers has often served the church. His father, Archibald Rogers, was an ordained minister in the Anti-Missionary or Old-Side Baptist Church. He married Elizabeth Boyles, and had 15 children who grew up. His fourth son, the Rev. D. W. Rogers, was licensed to preach in 1858. Since 1875, on account of ill health, he does not preach regularly. The

youngest child of the family, the Rev. S. N. Rogers, was licensed to preach a few years ago.

The M. E. Church for many years had preaching at Newburg and Independence, and the Newburg circuit was formed March 3, 1869, out of Kingwood and St. George circuits. In 1873, Newburg was set off as Newburg Station, and its pastors since have been W. C. Wilson, W. C. Snodgrass, J. M. Warden, Spencer King, Daniel Cool, a native of Upshur County, who served 12 years on the Pleasant Hill Circuit, two on the Brandonville, one year at Masontown, and in 1880 and 1881 at Newburg, and now at Evansville. Lewis E. Leslie is the present pastor.

The Presbyterian Church had no organization until 1867. In 1866, the Rev. C. D. Roberts, of Grafton, preached at Newburg and Scotch Hill. The Rev. W. R. Sibbet, of Kingwood, preached in 1867; and on the 20th of December of that year, the Rev. W. R. Sibbet and the Rev. J. H. Flanagan, with ruling elder Thomas Watson, organized a church at Newburg, consisting of 20 members and one elder, namely, R. Love. Lawrence Henry and William Campbell were installed as elders in 1869. Mr. Sibbet gave the church onefourth of his time until 1871. The Rev. Samuel Graham became the next stated supply, giving that church one-half his time until Sept., 1874, when he was elected the first pastor of the church, giving it all his time until 1879, after which he has given only one-half of his time to Newburg. During his pastorate five elders have been installed, as follows: Allen Morrison, Thomas Hunter, J. F. Picket, George Campbell and B. F. Jenkins. Within the same period, 115 persons have been added to the church.

Schools.— Lyon District is divided into 14 school districts, whose teachers for the winter of 1881-82 were as follows: No. 1, Independence, Miss Mattie McGee, principal, and Miss Mary Snyder, asst.; No. 2, James Newcome; No. 3, Scotch Hill, J. C. Nay, principal, Miss Florence Jaco, asst.; No. 4. Newburg, E. W. Zinn, principal, J. F. Stanhagen, 1st

asst., Miss Belle Swearingen, 2d asst., Mrs. Rachel Debolt, 3d asst.; No. 5, Austen, Miss Alberta Shaffer, principal, Miss Ella Menear, asst.; No. 6, W. W. Graham; No. 7, S. Stansberry; No. 8, Irondale, M. T. Powell, principal, Mrs. H. G. Osgood, asst.; No. 9, S. S. Broderick; No. 10, Gladesville, A. A. Menear; No. 11, Thomas Loar; No. 12, B. J. Fortney; No. 13, Sherrard C. Shaw; No. 14, Miss Amanda J. Strahin.

In April, 1882, the pupils between the ages of 6 and 21 were as follows: White — males, 583; females, 530; colored, 9; total, 1122.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad runs through Lyon for 6 miles and 294 poles.

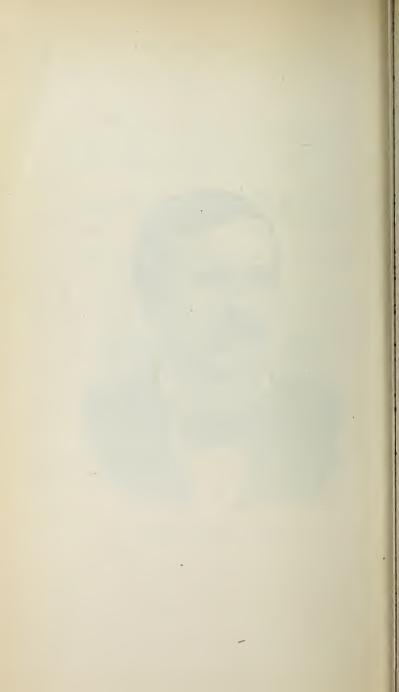
A strong mineral spring was recently struck at Irondale in digging for water. Its ingredients are chloride of soda, sulphate of lime, proto sulphate of iron, sulphate of potash, magnesia, manganese, and some silesia. It is a splendid tonic, and is prescribed as a remedy for kidney and liver diseases.

Lyon District in 1880 contained 25,903 acres in farms, worth \$172,966; buildings, \$50,075; town lots, \$82,286; personal property, \$109,172; total \$414,509.

The district was named Lyon by William H. Brown, in honor of General Lyon who fell at Wilson's Creek early in the War of the Rebellion.



NEIL J. FORTNEY.



NEIL J. FORTNEY.

Daniel Fortney, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, came from France to Frederick County, Maryland, about 1785. His wife, whose name is lost, was of German extraction; and, about 1790, they settled near the site of Reedsville in what is now Lyon District. Their children were Henry, Jacob, John (father of Thomas Fortney, ex-County Superintendent, and one of the present Assessors), Catherine, Elizabeth and David H. The family has produced several ministers, physicians and teachers.

David H. Fortney married Angeline S. Zinn, and their children were Eugene W., Fernandez E., Lycurgus H. (who died upon the eve of entering the Baptist ministry), Charlotta A., Caroline N. (wife of Col. R. W. Monroe), Silas M., Ashford E. (who was promoted from a private to 1st Lieutenant in Co. E., 15th W. Va., Infantry; served in the U. S. Signal Corps, and is now a minister in the M. E. Church in Ohio), Loretta R., Orpah S., and Neil Judson, the subject of this sketch, who was born near Independence, November 22, 1849. He removed with his parents, in 1865, to Indianola, Iowa, and attended Simpson Centenary College at that place.

In 1870, he left his home in Iowa and traveled for four years over a considerable portion of the West, including a trip up the Missouri River as far as the Montana line. For a livelihood he followed house painting, sign writing and school teaching, and was an occasional correspondent for home and other newspapers.

He returned to Preston County in 1874, and the next year began the study of the law with Col. R. W. Monroe. He was appointed Deputy County Clerk in 1877, in consequence of which appointment he suspended the study of the law for some time.

In April, 1879, he passed examination at Wheeling before

Judges Greene, Moore and Johnson, of the Supreme Court of Appeals, and was licensed to practice law.

Mr. Fortney was married on the 3d of June, 1879, to Miss Alice Edna, eldest daughter of Capt. Joseph M. Godwin, of Kingwood.

In 1880, he was the Republican candidate for Prosecuting Attorney, and was elected by a handsome majority. He took the oath of office, January 1, 1881, and the court records show that out of the indictments found and disposed of during the four terms of court held since his entrance upon the duties of his office, there have been fifty-one judgements in favor of the State against a very small number of acquittals or dismissals, and but one of his indictments quashed.

As a landscape and portrait painter, Mr. Fortney evinces a high order of talent. Painting, though his earliest choice, is by no means with him a "lost love," for at times he still turns to brush and pencil, and wields them with good effect.

CHAPTER XXIV.

RENO DISTRICT.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION — SANDY CREEK MOUND —INDIAN TRAILS —
EARLY SETTLEMENTS — ROADS — MILLS — ORGANIZATIONS: MAGISTERIAL, TOWNSHIP, DISTRICT — TOWNS — MAIL SERVICE — SALT
MAKING — ICE MOUNTAIN — COAL OIL MANUFACTURE — RELIGIOUS
DENOMINATIONS — SCHOOLS.

The territory of Reno District was embraced in the Eighth (magisterial) District, in 1852. In 1863, without change of boundaries, it became Reno Township; and in 1872, by change of designation, Reno District.

It is bounded on the north by Lyon and Kingwood districts; on the east, is separated by Cheat River from Union District; on the south it is bounded by Tucker and Barbour counties, and on the west by Taylor County.

Reno is first in order of size, second in order of population, eighth in order of designation, and the third in order of wealth, of the eight districts of the county.

The district is nearly equally divided by Laurel Hill Ridge; the eastern part being in the Cumberland Valley, and the western half lying in the upper part of the Newburg Trough. The surface is very rough and broken in the east, and broken and hilly in the west. The soil is a clay loam on the hills and a sand loam on the chestnut ridges and along Little Sandy Creek. With proper tillage, fair crops can be raised of wheat, corn, rye, oats and barley; while buckwheat does well. Wheat averages from 7 to 13 bushels per acre.

The eastern part of the district is drained by Cheat, whose principal tributary is Big Buffalo Run. The western portion is drained by Little Sandy Creek, a tributary of the Monongahela River.

Considerable bodies of timber still remain. Oak and chestnut are most plentiful.

Coal, limestone, and iron ore are not so abundant as in the other districts. The Freeport coal is found throughout the district, but has never been fully developed. Limestone exists in many places. Iron-ore of good quality is found in some parts.

Fruit, especially the hardier varieties of the apple, does well in all parts of Reno.

The territory of this district was once a favorable home for the buffalo, panther, bear, and wolf, but they departed many years ago, and but a few deer remain in the mountains.

Cattle, sheep, and horses are raised in the district; and do well with proper attention.

Sandy Creek Mound.—The mysterious Moundbuilders were in Reno, and left as an evidence of their occupation the Sandy Creek Mound, which is fully described on page 8.

Indian Trails.— The "Northwest Trail" came into Reno close to the bridge on Cheat River at Deakin's, kept with the Northwestern Turnpike up the mountain, leaving it a half a mile east of William H. Brown's, and passing through Chalmber Glenn's farm by the "Indian Foot Rock," which is covered with impressions of beasts, birds and a large number of foot-prints. It ran here with the old Clarksburg road, and keeping south of Fellowsville and Evansville to Ice's mill on Big Sandy, it was joined by the "Southern Branch," which entered the district from the north and followed York's Run. Leaving it near its mouth at the Coffin Rock (a large rock in shape resembling a coffin), it came south of Evansville to Ice's mill.

Early Settlements.—But little information could be obtained of the early settlers. Tradition tells of a family by the name of York, about 1786, being killed or taken captive by Indians at the mouth of the run bearing their name.

Hugh Evans was born in 1769, in Delaware. He married

Sarah Thomas, and came near the site of Evansville about 1800. His children were Nancy, Samuel (an old man still living), James (the founder of Evansville), Sarah, Rolla and William. Hugh Evans was a justice of the county court in 1818, and afterwards was sheriff. He died in 1873, at the age of 104 years.

Sometime after Evans settled, the Leeches and Hanaways came.

Roads.—An old Clarksburg road came from Mt. Carmel, and kept pretty much with the Northwest Indian Trail back of Fellowsville and Evansville. The Northwestern Turnpike was the great road in Reno, and increased its population rapidly for a few years. The first tavern stand after crossing Cheat River into Reno on this road, was built and kept by Charles Hooton. The second tavern stand was at the mouth of Buffalo Creek, and kept by the widow Funk. The third stand was what is now know as the "Burnt House." It was built by Hooton, and kept before he built the first stand. A toll-gate was here. The fourth stand, on the top of the mountain, was a log house, and was opened by William H. Brown, Christmas 1849, as the "Drovers' Rest." He kept as many as a 1000 head of cattle and 40 teams over night. The fifth stand was one mile west of Brown's, and was kept by John Nine, succeeded by Elias B. Glenn from 1848 to 1853; and he, in turn, was succeeded by his sons, Joseph F. and Jacob. The sixth stand was the hotel at Fellowsville, a fine frame building and among the best houses on the road. It was kept by Sylvanus Heermans in 1849. Before it was built, Charles Hooton and Isaac Lock kept here. seventh tavern stand was the "Travelers' Rest," kept by Moses Royse. The eighth was at Evansville, where Vick Johnson and Robinet kept public houses. The present roads are the Northwestern Turnpike, the pike from Tunnelton to Fellowsville, the road from Independence to Evansville, the Buffalo Run road, and the road from Evansville into Barbour County.

Mills.—The oldest mill of which we have any account, is Ice's Mill on Sandy Creek, two miles from Evansville. It was built over 75 years ago, and was formerly known as the Marquess Mill. On the same stream is the old Goff now Sinclair Mill. Poulson's Mill is on the waters of York's Run. The Jones Mill, on Big Buffalo Run, is now owned by C. M. Bishop.

Organizations.—From 1818 to 1852, the territory of the district was not recognized as a distinct part of the county. In the latter year, the territory of Reno District was organized into the Eighth (magisterial) District. On the 10th of July, 1863, it was established as Reno Township, and its boundary lines were run as follows:

"Beginning at the mouth of Muddy Run on the west side of Cheat River, corner to the County of Tucker, thence with the line of said county S. 661, W. 8 miles and 20 poles to Rock Springs, at the head of Bruff's Fork of Big Sandy Creek, being a corner to Barbour County; thence down said Bruff's Fork with its meanders and the lines of said Barbour County, to the mouth of Little Sandy Creek, a corner to Taylor County; thence with the last named county, north crossing Little Sandy Creek three times to a corner of Lyon Township in the Northwestern Turnpike; thence with the lines of the last-named township, to wit: N. 72, E. 620 p. to a maple on the W. side of the old Evansville Road; thence with said road to a stone; thence leaving said road N. $76\frac{1}{2}$, E. 320 p. to a W. O.; thence N. 53, E. 42 p. to a R. O. on the north side of said road; thence with said road to a stump near James Shea's dwelling house; thence leaving the aforesaid road N. 621. E. 41 p. to a stump; thence N. 35, E. 300 p. to the big fill (west of the big tunnel in the B. & O. R. R.), corner to Kingwood Township; thence leaving the lines of Lyon Township and with the said railroad and the lines of Kingwood Township to a little fill west of Buck Horn Run; thence leaving said railroad East 300 poles to Cheat River; thence leaving the

lines of the last-named Township and up said river with its meanders to the place of the beginning."

In 1872, under the new Constitution, Reno Township became, without any change of boundaries, Reno District.

From 1818 to 1852, Hugh Evans, John J. Hamilton, Joseph G. Baker, A. H. Bowman (1844 to 1848), were among the justices of the peace.

Magisterial officers from 1852 to 1863:

1852—Justices, John J. Hamilton, Job Jaco, Joseph G. Baker and Moses Royse; no record of constables.

1856-No record obtainable.

1860—Justices, William H. Brown, Dr. J. C. Kemble, J. J. Hollis and Joseph G. Baker; constables, no record.

1864, 1866, and 1868—no record.

1869—Job Jaco, supervisor; William Loughridge, clerk; Joseph G. Baker, overseer of poor; A. W. Pierce, treasurer; Peter Zinn, school commissioner; Moses Cassedy and Joseph G. Baker, inspectors; T. M. Summers, constable; H. B. Bolyard and B. F. Hooton, surveyors of roads.

1870—Joseph G. Baker, supervisor; William Loughridge, clerk; Job Jaco, overseer of poor; Moses Cassedy and Job Jaco, inspectors; Adam H. Bowman, school commissioner. Road surveyors—Precinct No 1, Adam H. Bowman; No 2, A. Dancer; No. 3, John Menifee; No. 4, William Bomar; No. 5, H. P. Bolyard.

1871—Joseph G. Baker, supervisor; A. H. Bowman, school commissioner; W. H. Loughridge, clerk; Joseph G. Baker, overseer of poor; Alex. Shahan and C. S. M. Hooton, inspectors; Francis M. Huffman and Henry H. Wheeler, justices; William Loughridge and A. W. Pierce, constables. Road surveyors—Precinct No. 1, Adam H. Bowman; No. 2, William H. Rrown; No. 3, John Menifee; No. 4, William Bomar.

District officers elected from August 22, 1872, to December 31, 1881.

1872—Peter Zinn and Henry H. Wheeler, justices; David B. Simpson and Lewis May, constables.

1873—School board—no record.

1875—School board, Adam H. Bowman (president), Abraham Shahan and Harrison Zinn.

1876—Justices, Henry H. Wheeler and T. M. Summers; constables, Nelson Jaco and G. R. Adams.

1877—School board, F. M. Huffman (president), Abraham Shahan and C. S. M. Hooton.

1879—School board, F. M. Huffman (president), William Hamilton, Daniel Felton, M. Knotts and Isaac Marquess.

1880—Justices, Henry H. Wheeler and T. M. Summers; constables, A. J. Hamilton and G. R. Adams.

1881—School board, J. Nelson Baker (president), James X. Hooton and William Hamilton; William Loughridge, secretary.

Road surveyors appointed by the court October 4th, 1881: Precinct No. 1, A. J. Hamilton; No. 2, William Lawrence; No. 3, A. Wolf; No. 4, George Nose; No. 5, Amos Bolyard; No. 6, Jonathan Smith; No. 7, Joshua Eliason; No. 8, John H. Carrico; No. 9, George W. Shaver; No. 10, Jonathan Smith; No. 11, Frank Jenkins.

Towns.—Rowlesburg is 75 miles west of Cumberland, and 126 miles east of Wheeling, on the B. & O. R. R., and is situated on the west side of Cheat River, where that stream cuts its way deep down through Laurel Hill Ridge, leaving lofty mountains encircling the town below. It stands on lands patented by James Goff in 1793, which passed into the possession of his son, Salathiel, who had a cabin on J. M. Senseman's garden on C. M. Bishop's land. It is asserted that John Wheeler had a cabin here before Goff. The first house was built on the river bank by the railroad company for Rowles, by one account, but Squire H. H. Wheeler, who was here in January, 1850, says it was built by Daniel Loudon. It was moved opposite the postoffice, and is now occupied by W. W. Shoch. Rowlesburg was named after Thomas Rowles, a division engineer on the B. & O. R. R., and was incorporated Feb. 27, 1858. The first town council

was Wm. Hall (mayor), A. L. Hooton, T. F. Head, H. H. Wheeler, and Alonzo Henry, with a Recorder whose name is unknown.

The first store was kept in 1850 by one Offet, in a house close to Mrs. Heath's. Bishop & Morris bought him out in. 1851, and the next year moved to a house in front of A. H. Bowman's store. They were succeeded by Downey & Co., C. M. Bishop, Chase & Co., Bowman, Bishop & Perry, and A. H. Bowman in 1858, who built and removed in 1875 to his present building. E. M. Hagans in 1851 built where Stone & Sheets now keeps, and kept store. He was succeeded by Startzman & Brother, Owens & Annan, Bishop & Campbell, C. M. Bishop, Morris & Stone (1878), and the present firm, Stone & Sheets, (E. B. Stone and Elsev Sheets,) in 1880. D. Wonderly, Jr., once kept where G. R. Adams lives. J. W. Heckman came in 1855 from Pennsylvania, and kept a store near to the postoffice building, to which he removed in 1863. He was succeeded by W. W. Shoch, in 1881. Susan Coniff and John Daly also kept stores, and H. F. Killen has a grocery.

The first postmaster was John Hooton, whose successors have been J. Hooton, William Hall, C. M. Bishop, F. W. Purinton, and J. W. Heckman, appointed in 1865. Elisha

B. Stone is the present incumbent.

W. W. Shoch is a native of York Co, Pa.; came to Rowlesburg in 1865; was telegraph operator at Harper's Ferry from 1861 to 1865, and sent the messages moving Sheridan's army and the order relieving Burnside of his command of the Army of the Potomac. He was once chased and shot at by thirteen Confederates, who were disguised as Federal soldiers.

The first physician was Alonzo Henry, in 1853; followed by A. J. Hale (the proprietor of the present drug store), G. T. Plummer and C. M. Hollis, who have removed.

John Hooton, a hatter (the father of James X. Hooton), came to Kingwood in 1816, and to Rowlesburg in 1851, and kept the River House. He was succeeded as landlord by E.

McClaskey, John A. Peters, R. J. Riley, — Bartlett, and Mr. Knotts, the present landlord. The Virginia House was opened by John A. Peters, followed by Charles Hooton, and J. J. Hunter, its present proprietor.

John A. Dalrymple came here in 1848, from Baltimore, as a civil engineer in the service of the B. & O. R. R.

O. A. Annan is freight, express and ticket agent. Eight "helpers" (locomotives) were moved from Newburg to this place in 1880.

A large lumber mill was built by O. D. Downey, and run by O. D. Downey & Co., succeeded by The Rowlesburg Lumber & Iron Company, who failed, and the property was sold to Lynch, Winslow & Co. It was destroyed by fire on the evening of May 23, 1881.

The Allegheny Land, Lumber & Boom Company erected a large, three-story lumber mill in 1881. An 85-horse power engine drives its saws, and the planing, trimming and molding machinery. The capacity of the mill is 75,000 feet of dressed lumber per day. Two booms in the river supply the timber. S. F. Brown is general superintendent, and C. S. M. Hooton, book keeper.

Howe & Co., and Eberly, Senselman, Hinckley & Co., have steam saw mills. A Mrs. Wolf owns a steam saw and grist mill.

At the east end of the railroad bridge is the celebrated blue free-stone quarry, from which dressed rock is sent to Baltimore in large quantities.

A terrible accident occurred about one-half mile west of the town on the B. & O. R. R., on Easter Sunday, 1853. Two locomotives were drawing a train, when the track spread, precipitating two passenger cars some 60 feet over the great "fill." Nine persons were killed and four wounded. Robert Murray, then a resident of the county, was among the killed.

Major John H. Showalter had his fight with General Jones's Confederate forces here in 1863. Major Showalter asserts that he retreated because his supplies were cut, and was making his way to Fairmont when Colonel Mulligan sent him a telegram to reach Wheeling in the shortest possible time; and, in order to do so, he went to Uniontown, Pa., and from there by rail to Pittsburgh; thence by water to Wheeling.

The town contains a Methodist and a Catholic church.

Evansville is 18 miles southwest from the county-seat on the Northwestern turnpike. James Evans built the first house, in which Mary Jenkins now lives, about 1831; and the town that grew up, and was for several years a great business center, was named after his father, Hugh Evans. James Evans was the first postmaster and kept a store. He was succeeded by William Carroll and Samuel Byrne, one-half mile west. Then came R. P. Shires, M. J. Robinett, W. Hamilton, Tutt & Ashby and others, at different places in the town. The present merchants are G. N. Walter (present postmaster), Charles Talbot and J. Nelson Baker, a brother of Col. A. C. Baker. His father, Joseph G. Baker, lately deceased, was a son of John Baker who was a soldier in the War of 1812, and came in 1835 to Reno from Monongalia County.

Dr. J. C. Kemble came in 1844. Dr. Kenedy was here a short time, about 1850. Dr. Z. M. West attended lectures at Columbus, Ohio, and came in 1871.

Vick Johnson kept the first tavern, in a brick building which stood on Dr. Kemble's lot. M. J. Robinett kept the Evansville Hotel. Arthur Fitch kept the Globe Inn, and Samuel Costolo, the Virginia House in 1848. They were succeeded by several others. George Weaver has been keeping his present hotel for nearly 16 years. His predecessor was Mr. Hanshaw.

The town has a Methodist Episcopal and a Baptist church, an Odd Fellows lodge, and a woolen factory owned and operated by Jonathan Bowman & Son.

Fellowsville is 16 miles southwest of the county-seat, at the head of Little Sandy Creek, and at the junction of

Brandonville, Kingwood and Evansville and the Northwestern turnpikes. It was laid out in the spring of 1848, by Sylvanus Heermans, who came from Luzerne Co., Pa., and He named Fellowsville in honor of his uncle, Joseph Fellows, of po The first house built is still standing at the leave southern end of the bridge on Kingwood Street, and was Par used as a printing office. Under Mr. Heermans's good p management, assisted by his brother John Hermans, the lab town at once commenced to build up. It was incorporated in November 30, 1852.

Sylvanus Heermans opened a large hotel, favorably known along the whole pike. His sign on the one side bore the coat of arms of the State of Pennsylvania, and on the other the coat of arms of the State of Virginia. Mrs. R. Bishor now keeps the Bishop House.

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S. Heermans kept the first store, succeeded by E. Thorpe. Joseph Fellows, F. Heermans, James Bishop, James M. Purcell, Job Jaco, Thomas & Pierce, and others. J. and R. Shahan, G. J. Shaffer, and Bishop & Huffman had stores burnt here. The present merchants are R. E. Hanway and Trickett & Shav.

S. Heermans was the first postmaster, and P. M. Sturgiss the first physician. A. G. Trickett is the present postmaster. and T. Eaton was the last physician.

The Preston Institute and Library Association was were Dist organized here, September 25, 1877. Its officers George Purcell, President, Jacob Miller, Vice President, J N. Wolff, Recording Secretary, F. M. Huffman, Correspond ing Secretary, and A. G. Trickett, Treasurer. It has over 100 and members, and a library of 200 volumes.

 $\mathrm{Th}\epsilon$ from S. Heermans built the first mill, which burnt down. present steam mill was built by Trickett & Plum in 1879 | South and, one-half mile west, Benjamin Royse built his flouring Con mill in 1858.

Before Fellowsville was laid out, Charles Hooton kept a tem tavern, about 1832, in a log house on the west side of James the creek.

John Heermans (brother of Sylvanus, now living in Juzerne Co., Pa.) was for some time a citizen of the county. Ie was born March 27, 1814, at Hyde Park, Luzerne Co., Pa. He married Mary Pepper, in 1835, who died in 1847, eaving four children, Francis Heermans and Mrs. James W. Parks, of Kingwood; Dr. Philip Heermans, of Tioga Co., Pa., and George Heermans, of Corning, N. Y. In 1848, John Heermans married Miss Nancy Travis, and their chil-Iren were Mrs. Alice Field, Harry C., Clinton W., Lena, and John. Mr. Heermans was a forcible writer, as is attested by nis book, "Nuggets of Gold; or, The Laws of Success in Life." He was late trustee of the vast estate of his uncle, Joseph Fellows, and died at Corning, New York, January 23, 1882, where he had been a prominent prohibition temperance eader for several years. He was a member of the M. E. Church; in politics a Republican, and in the late war, an earnest supporter of the Union.

Greigsville was a small town, laid out about 1849, on Tunnel Hill, and named for John Greig, who had charge of large tracts of lands here. The postoffice was kept in 1850 by D. W. Patton, but when the railroad track was removed from over the hill and the tunnel was opened the place went down.

The southern portion of Tunnelton is in Reno, but its history is given under the head of Tunnelton in Kingwood District.

Mail Service.—Rowlesburg receives east and west daily mails over the B. & O. R. R. A tri weekly mail runs from Independence to Fellowsville via Evansville. A mail runs from Fellowsville to Sinclair p. o. at Goff's Mill, 22 miles southwest of the county-seat. A new postoffice named Courtney has been established near the Barbour County line.

Salt Making.—Charles Brownfield, of Smithfield, Pa., at tempted to make salt on Big Buffalo Run over 50 years age, James Hamilton (the father-in-law of Joseph G. Baker), who married a Brownfield, superintended the work. Some salt

was made, but for some cause now not known the undertaking was abandoned.

Ice Mountain.—This wonder on Flag Run, contains ice throughout the whole year. It is described in detail on page 359.

Coal Oil Manufacture.—Cannel coal, which sells at high prices, varies from 1 inch to 51 feet, and is generally associated with bituminous coal. In this part of the State it accompanies the Upper Freeport vein, and has yielded two gallons of oil per bushel of coal. There is a bituminous or cannel shale often mistaken for it, but almost as rich as the cannel. This cannel coal is very plentiful in parts of Reno, and if the cheaper petroleum had not been discovered, it would be today a great source of income to the district. This coal is also valuable for making gas. Several barrels of illuminating oil were made from this coal about 1859, by Dr. Hammil, Israel Robinson and Mr. Stine. They boarded with C. H. Corbin at Fellowsville. Their works stood close to Andrew Bolyard's on Sandy Creek. The War coming on, they stopped. After the War the discovery of the cheaper petroleum caused the enterprise to be abandoned. The works burnt down.

Religious Denominations.—The Evansville Circuit of the M. E. Church is composed of societies formerly embraced in the Kingwood Circuit. It was formed in 1859, with A. Bower and M. V. B. White as preachers. The Rev. Daniel Cool is the present pastor. It has a membership of 258, and five Sunday-schools with 235 scholars. It has five churches, valued at \$5100.

The Baptist Church at Evansville was organized in April, 1879, by the Rev. Felix Elliott, with about twelve members. The ministers have been Felix Elliott, J. B. Solomon, George F. C. Conn and A. Barnett. The church now has a considerable membership. An old church used to exist in Renomany years ago, and was served by the Rev. Jesse M. Purinton, D. D., who came to Reno for a time on account of ill health. His son, Prof. D. B. Purinton, is the acting president of the

West Virginia University. Prof. G. D. Purinton, another son, is vice president of the DesMoines University, Iowa; and another son, Prof. A. L. Purinton, is principal of the Parkersburg schools, and was the Republican candidate in 1880 for State superintendent of free schools. Accompanying Dr. Purinton was deacon Call, the father of the Rev. L. N. Call, of Iowa, whose son, Prof. D. F. Call, is president of the DesMoines University.

Schools.—There are 23 school districts and 24 school-houses in Reno. The schools and teachers for the winter of 1881–82 were:

No. 1, Rowlesburg, W. S. Bayles, principal; Miss Millie C. Clark, 1st assistant; Miss Ella Dawson, 2d assistant; No. 2, W. J. Scott; No. 3, W. M. Glenn; No. 4, Miss Mary Cassedy; No. 5, Miss Irene Harshberger; No. 6, Noah Loughridge; No. 7, W. W. Carpenter; No. 8—two houses,—George Gocke, L. B. Ridgeway; Nos. 9 and 10, Charles C. Showalter; No. 11, Evansville, Miss Ella Phillips; No. 12, Miss Lucy A. Mattirgly; No. 13, George C. Shaw; No. 14, W. I. Rush; No. 15, Fellowsville, J. D. Eichelberger; No. 16, Joseph Loughridge; No. 17, W. F. Pierce; No. 18, A. G. Steiger; No. 19, W. H. Copeman; No. 20, J. W. Funk; No. 21, John Pace; No.22, Charles Munson; No. 23, R. F. Rightmire. In April, 1882, the number of pupils between 6 and 21 years of age was as follows: White—males, 558; females, 556; colored, 9; total, 1123.

Reno was named by William H. Brown, in honor of General Reno.

Philip Wolf was an old settler in the district. His son, Peter M. Wolf, was born here, and is now a man of 60 years of age. The Clendenning mill, 50 years ago, stood on Flag Run.

Reno District, in 1880, contained 61,279 acres in farms, worth \$240,017; buildings, \$42,509; town lots, \$35,390; accord property, \$99.620; total, \$417,566.

The B. & O. R. R. runs along its northern boundary line for 6 miles and 39 poles.

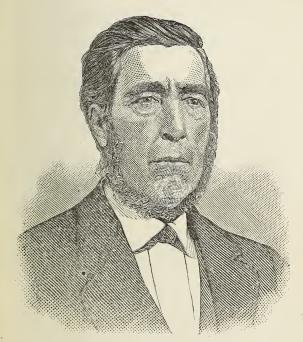
DR. J. C. KEMBLE.

About 1800 Samuel Kemble came from England, remaining a while in New Jersey he finally made his home in Harrison County, Virginia, (now West Virginia). He married Elizabeth Warner, and their children were Thornton F., Rebecca, Julius C., the subject of this sketch, Harriet, Henry B., William P., George B., Samuel P., Francis M., and Elizabeth V.

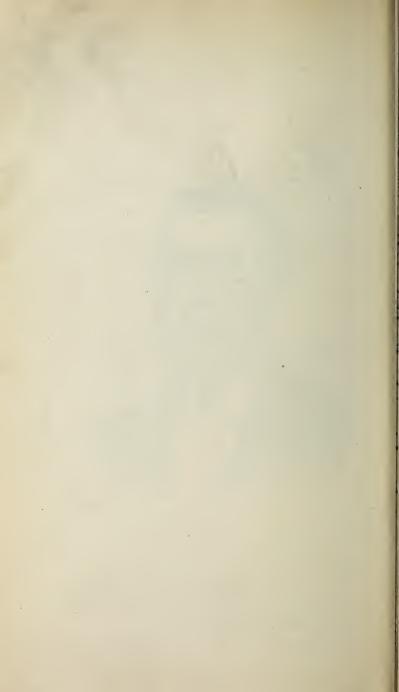
The subject of this sketch was born in Pruntytown, May 21, 1817. He attended Rector College, read medicine with Dr. J. L. Carr, and attended lectures at Richmond, Va. He came in 1844, from West Union to Evansville where he served as postmaster from 1845 to 1850, and also as justice of the peace. He was a member of the Legislature of Virginia from 1855 to 1861, and afterwards Democratic candidate for State Senator from Preston and Monongalia counties.

His first wife having died several years since, on the 17th of January, 1882, he married Miss Catherine C. Carroll, of Kingwood.

He has enjoyed a good practice and accumulated considerable wealth.



J. C. KEMBLE.



APPENDIX.

CHAPTER XXV.

[The information hereunder was received too late for proper classification in the body of the work.]

COMMISSIONERS TO LOCATE COUNTY-SEAT — CLAIBORNE AND MOYLAN SURVEY — THE FIRST SURVEY — OLD, FERRIES — POSTOFFICES AND POSTMASTERS IN 1822 — JUDICIAL: WM. G. PAYNE, JUDGE M. B. HAGANS, JUDGE E. C. BUNKER — EDUCATIONAL: JOHN S. RITENOUR, DR. M. S. BRYTE, M. T. POWELL — SMALL-POX — ADDITIONAL DISTRICT HISTORY: GRANT, PLEASANT, PORTLAND, VALLEY, KINGWOOD — WEALTH OF THE COUNTY IN 1881 — COUNTY AND DISTRICT LEVIES.

Thomas Byrne, Felix Scott, William Irwin, William Marteny and John M'Whorter were the commissioners appointed in 1818 to locate the county-seat.

The Claiborne and Moylan survey of many thousand acres, patented in 1783 or 84, passed into the hands of the Johnson and Hornby estates of England. The owners being aliens could not hold the lands in their own names, and vested the title in the names of their American agents. Dr. Robert Troup, of New York, was general agent for the Johnson estate up to his death in 1832; succeeded by Joseph Fellows, of Geneva, New York, until 1863, when he resigned, and Benjamin F. Young succeeded, with his office at Bath, New York, and now holds the title for both estates. Israel Baldwin had charge at Kingwood until 1847, of the Johnson in terests; succeeded by Sylvanus Heermans, who held with

Fellows the title until 1853, when John Heermans held the title until 1857. The Hornby estate vested their portion of the title in John Greig; succeeded by Alexander Jeffreys.

The first land surveyed on the territory of Preston after it became a county was 55 acres on Laurel Run, for Samuel Gandy, by Buckner Fairfax, October 30, 1818.

In 1792, the General Assembly recognized two ferries in the county, one on Cheat River, from the land of Thomas Butler across the river to his land opposite; the other, from the land of Samuel Morton across Big Sandy Creek, to the land of John Conner, Sr. The ferriage was by law 4 cents for a man and 4 cents for a horse. In 1806, the county courts were empowered to establish ferries.

In 1822, the postoffices and masters were as follows: Crab Orchard, Jacob Guseman, postmaster; it was 195 miles from Washington and 300 from Richmond. Glady Creek Cross Roads, Jesse Philips, p. m., 223 miles from Washington, 329 from Richmond. German Settlement, Adam Shafer, p. m.; 170 miles from Washington, and 175 miles from Richmond. Kingwood, William Johnson, p. m.; 185 miles from Washington, and 295 miles from Richmond. Sandy Cross Roads, Andrew Armstrong, p. m.; 201 miles from Washington, and 307 miles from Richmond.

Judicial. — William G. Payne came from Morgantown and attended the first court held in Preston. He was a citizen of the county for many years. He was a native of east Virginia, and a good lawyer. He died and was buried on Cheat River in this county.

The Hor. Marcellus Brown Hagans, son of Elisha M. and Anne M. Hagans, was born in Petersburg, Pa., April 21, 1827. His boyhood was spent in Kingwood. He graduated from Washington College when only 17; studied law with his uncle, the Hon. William G. Brown, and was admitted to the bar in 1848, and formed with his brother-in-law, Judge John A. Dille, the law partnership of Dille & Hagans In 1852, he removed to Cincinnati, and in 1856 entered into the

law firm of Hagans & Broadwell, of which he is still a member. In 1868, he was elected to the judgeship of the Superior Court of Cincinnati, and voted to retain the Bible in the public schools of the city. He married, in 1851, the only daughter of the Hon. Samuel Lewis, who was the father of the free school system in Ohio. Judge Hagans is still engaged in the practice of the law in Cincinnati, and is highly spoken of in the "Biographical Dictionary of Ohio."

The Hon. Edward C. Bunker was born in New York City, October 9, 1830, and was brought to Kingwood at an early age by his uncle, Israel Baldwin, who was his guardian. He entered Washington College in 1844, but was compelled to leave on account of ill health. He studied law in 1849 with Guy R. C. Allen, of Morgantown, and was admitted to the bar at Kingwood in 1850. He married Miss Delia, daughter of Harrison Hagans, and removed to Morgantown in 1857, and became a member of the law firm of Willey & Bunker. He was prosecuting attorney for Monongalia County from 1861 to 1863, when he was elected to the State Senate, and was a member of it until appointed to the judgeship of the Eleventh Judicial District, and removed to Piedmont, where he died, November 24, 1867. He was buried at Kingwood, A high tribute of respect was paid him by the bar in his district, "bearing testimony to his pure, uncorrupt sense of justice and right," as being "a citizen of tried public and private virtues," and "a faithful, upright and efficient judge." Judge Bunker was of more than medium height, and of genial disposition.

Educational. — John S. Ritenour, a member of the editorial force of the Pittsburgh Daily Commercial Gazette, was the son of William M. Ritenour, who came to Brandonville about 40 years ago, and was a commissioned officer in the 4th Iowa Infantry during the Rebellion. John S. Ritenour was born in Brandonville, February 9, 1851; taught school in Bruceton in 1868; established the Fayette County Republican, now the Republican-Standard of Uniontown, Pa.,

June 6, 1878; and served editorially on the *Pittsburgh Dispatch* and *Philadelphia Bulletin*.

Dr. M. S. Bryte and Lr. M. T. Powell were appointed assistant examiners by the presidents of the district boards of education, June 6, 1882.

Dr. M. S. Bryte was a lieutenant in the third Md. Vol. Infantry. Sergeants John W. Haines and Daniel Haines (who died) belonged to the regiment, as also did N. P. Smith.

Small-pox has been in the county twice since 1830. There were forty cases in 1876 at Clifton Mills, treated by Dr. J. T. Fuller, of which but three were fatal. In 1882, there were three cases at Reedsville, treated by Drs. Manown and Conley, of which none were fatal.

Grant District.—The "Moccasin Rock" is a rock in which is the print of a moccasined foot, near Preston Guthrie's. A large, unexplored cave is on the land of Solomon Walls.

The Cuppett (Lutheran) Church was organized September 2, 1843, by the Rev. Henry Knepper. Elder, Jacob Myers; deacons, Daniel Cuppett, Philip Turney; members, John Cuppett, Sr., Susannah, John, Jacob Morgan and Henry Cuppett, Philip and George Beerbower, David and Catherine Dennis, Elizabeth Myers and Elizabeth Wolf.

The constables of the district in 1876 were, George H. Armstrong and Jonas Frankhouser; 1880, Milton W. Robinson and A. D. Hagans. Road surveyors, 1881: Precinct No. 1, Samuel Conner; No. 2, Harry Spurgin; No. 3, E. B. King; No. 4, Perry J. Rogers; No. 5, John Vansickle; No. 6, Preston Guthrie; No. 7, Samuel Darby; No. 8, John W. Cuppett; No. 9, Robert Arnold.

Pleasant District.—In 1833, John Crane and Vick Johnson had a store on a hill above Ringer's Mill.

Road surveyors, 1881: Precinct No. 1, John Johns; No. 2, S. Martin; No. 3, Alpheus McNair; No. 4, Guy A. Bishop; No. 5, W. C. Ringer; No. 6, Lot M. Spurgin; No. 7, Lewis

Smith; No. 8, Joseph B. Feather; No. 9, Alex. Shaffer; No. 10, Isaac Guseman; No. 11, J. J. Martin. A new post-office named Harned has been established at Beach Run.

Portland District.—Pleasant Hill Circuit of the M. E. Church was formed in 1872; C. J. Třippett, pastor; 1873, J. G. Weaver; 1875, J. W. Hess; 1877, G. Rogers; 1878, F. G. W. Ford (now at Brandonville), who was born in 1833, licensed to preach in 1860, captain in the 15th Reg. of W. Va. Vols., was in several battles, and commenced preaching again in 1874; 1880–1882, Joseph B. Feather. The circuit has 200 members, 6 churches valued at \$3000, and one parsonage at \$450.

About 1855, Mr. Annan and Andrew McCleary started their tannery. Mr. McCleary married Martha Armstrong, a sister to Mrs. James H. Manown.

Charles W. Forman opened his store, one mile from Willey, in 1882. Edmund Messenger claims to have raised the first Union pole in the district in 1861.

Miss Ruth Crane was one of the leading teachers of the district, and a good newspaper correspondent. She married the Rev. A. S. Baumgardner, who is preaching in Pennsylvania.

Road Surveyors appointed October 4, 1881: Precinct No. 1, Elmer Forman; No 2, S. A. Sisler; No. 3, Edmund Messenger; No. 4, William Felton; No. 5, H. C. Beatty; No. 6, George H. Trembly; No. 7, R. P. Jackson; No. 8, H. Feather; No. 9, Alfred Sisler; No. 10, Edward F. King; No. 11, S. O. Fraley; No. 12, Jonathan Wilhelm; No. 13, C. C. Lee.

Valley District.—The M. E. Church at Masontown was built in 1872, and burnt down in March, 1882. A new church is now being built.

Among the old papers of Col. John Fairfax was found a letter written by George Washington to Col. Fairfax, concerning some business that Fairfax was to transact for

Washington at Boston. The letter is now in the possession of Col. John A. F. Martin.

As these pages go to press, it is said that there is a good prospect of the early construction of the Iron Valley & Morgantown Railroad.

Kingwood District. — Benjamin Thomas came about 1800, from Culpepper C. H. to the Dunkard Bottom. His children were William (who married Elizabeth Gaines, and was the father of Sheriff Elisha Thomas), Richard, James, Joseph, Elisha, Nancy, and Lucinda.

The first steward of the county poor-house was C. B. Fawcett; succeeded by J. H. Bennett, C. B. Fawcett, A. T. Holt, C. B. Fawcett, J. A. Fawcett, and B. A. Conner.

The wealth of the county in 1881 was as follows:

Districts	Poal *	Personal.	Total
Grant	.\$311,670	\$117,338	\$429,008
		79,335	
Portland	297,221	117,662	414,883
Union	213,109	76,997	290,106
		63,839	
Kingwood	321,752	254,394	576,146
Lyon	305,327	109,172	414,499
Reno	317,907	99,620	417,527
Totals	2,153,248	918,357	3,071,605

The levy for State and State school purposes is 30 cents on the \$100. The levy for county purposes (including poor tax) has been as follows: 1869, 65 cents on the \$100; 1870, 60 cents; 1871, 50 cents; 1872, 60 cents; 1873, 50 cents; 1874, 54 cents; 1875, 64 cents; 1876, 27½ cents: 1877, 57½ cents; 1878, 80 cents; 1879, 50 cents; 1880, 50 cents; 1881, 70 cents.

The district levies from 1871 to 1881, inclusive, for road, school (to pay teachers) and building (school houses) are shown in the following tables, in which R in the sub head is for road levy; S, school; B, building:

YEAR.	KINGWOOD.		D.	VALLEY.			LYON.			RENO.		
	R	S.	B.	R.	S.	B.	R.	S.	B_{i}	R.	Ŋ.	B
871	10	25	10	õ	40	30	10	50	50	10	50	- b(
.872	10	. 10	20	10	25	40	10	50	50	10	5)	ō(
873	10	25	35	- 10	25	25	10	35	55	10	35	ő
874	10	15	40	10	35	10	10	35	40	10	35	4
875	10	. 20	40	10	20	15	10	37	40	10	35	3
876	10	25	40	331/3	30	25	10	30	25:	10	45	3
.877	10	20	40	10	40	40	10	30	15	10	35	-1
.878	22	15	10	15	31	12	10	30	12	$10^{2}/_{3}$	45	1.
879	18	22	15	15	12	37	15	30	25	8	45	2
.880	20	20	15	5	22	31	10	50	15	10	15	1
.881	25	22	24	20	32	30	10	40	10	35	25	2
YEAR.	U	NION.	1	PORT	TLAN	D.	PLE	ASAN	T.	GF	RANT	
	R,	S	B.	R.	S.	\overline{B} .	R.	Ν,	\overline{B} .	R,	B	B
871	10	40	45	10	40	20.	R, 5	25		5	25	1
872	10	45	40	10	40	20	5	25	25	10	20	3
873	10	45	15	10	41)	20	10	25	5	10	25	2
874	10	40	40	10	40	10	5 5	30	20	5	30	1
875		50	20	10	40	201	5	30	101		40	1
876	10	40	15	10	44	44		30	10:	5	55	11
877	35	45	25	15	20	30	10	35	10	10	35	į
878	20	35	15	60	25	40	10	35	5	20	30	
879	20	25	25	$12\frac{1}{2}$	25	20	5	25	2½	121/2	2.	į
				00	30	24	5	25	- 4			1/
880	20 25	35	20 15	20	25	41	15	25 25	10	10	35 35	10







